

MARCH 2016 / ₹ 125

# FHM

# 21

PAGES OF

# AMAZING WOMEN

★★Starring★★

# Parineeti Chopra

the girl your dad  
warned you about



PIED PIPER  
IN PURSUIT OF  
**HARMONY**  
**ACROSS**  
**4 CITIES**  
AND 6 GENRES

LEARN  
TO RUN  
LIKE  
A PRO

G.O.T vs  
G.O.I

*A sarkaari  
version of  
the baddest  
story ever*



INDIA EDITION VOL 9 ISSUE 04

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**FHM**

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\*Don't take offence, people.

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## EDITOR'S LETTER

*"I feel bad for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day."*

— Frank Sinatra

We at *FHM* agree with Ol' Blue Eyes, as well as English playwright NF Simpson who said, "Reality is an illusion created by a lack of alcohol". Which is why in this issue we raise a toast to unique spirits whose bottles are as heady as the buzz that they give. From a quirky breast-shaped bottle of Irish cream to a bizarre stuffed squirrel serving you beer, to a handgun giving a new meaning to a tequila shot... each one is a crazy collectible.

Speaking of collectibles, this edition is definitely one for keeps. It gives you a glimpse of the myriad hues from Parineeti Chopra's palette of seduction — even when she is draped in just black or white. Do save some drool for competitive dancer Sidney Sebold and ultimate party girl Yasmin, both revealing their own shades of super sexiness.

Other must-reads: a tribute to our favourite blood 'n' gore show, *Game of Thrones*, with a set of characters from our own political stage. We've also featured some deadly yet trendy bejewelled knives to help you settle that dispute in office the *GoT* way and make everyone dance to your tune.

Talking of tunes, our 16-page music special will make you miss a beat. The lineup of profiles include Giorgio Moroder, one of the most influential disco and electronic musicians; Nirali and Kartik from Maati Baani; modern jazz drummer Tarun Balani; and Yesterdrive, an indie-rock band from Arunachal Pradesh.

More that'll strike a chord: a review of Mahindra Mojo; an interview with *Suits'* Gabriel Macht; and both sky-borne and undersea innovations in our tech pages.

That's it for now. Enjoy the issue...

**Hari Govind Nair**



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MARCH 2016

# ACCESS

IT'S  
GREAT  
TO BE  
A MAN

Photography: Marshall James. Styling: Thomas Ramshaw at kylegriffiths.co.uk. Hair and make-up: Natacha Schmitt using Clinique. Lingerie: l'agent by agent provocateur



# HOT ADVICE FROM A COOL GIRL:

## How to throw a sexy costume party

FEATURING

*Yasmin*

*31st October is not the only day you get to play dress up and go kinky. But how do you know if you've gone too far with your haunted house? Luckily, Yasmin and Girl On The Net are here to hold your hand...*

01

She's come dressed as a sexy nurse and, instead of the usual clichés, you tell her she's a credit to the National Health Service and deserves a pay rise as well as a generous pension.

**Yasmin says:** Is this a compliment?

**Girl On The Net says:** If she's not impressed, any nearby nurses would probably like your number.

**FHM says:** It's wordy, but a big step up from, "You must be a nurse because you just cured my erectile dysfunction."

02

In an attempt at total authenticity, you've filled your house with real spiders and frogs.

**Yasmin says:** This is so not OK... it sounds more like a nightmare!

**Girl On The Net says:** 10 out of 10 for effort, zero out of 10 for hotness.

**FHM says:** Best go for cute puppies, adorable kittens and cuddly daddy longlegs instead.

03

You turn up to the fancy-dress party dressed as her.

**Yasmin says:** Now this is funny, because chances are I came dressed as you.

**Girl On The Net says:** This is the most hilarious costume idea I've ever heard. Who wrote these scenarios? Will they go out with me?

**FHM says:** Yes, we will.

**ACCESS**





**“ALL WE REALLY WANT IS FOR YOU TO PUT A LITTLE TIME INTO SOMETHING”**

04

You've doctored the Ouija board so that it spells out 'I <3 you'.

**Yasmin says:** I know how hard it is for you to express your feelings, so it's nice to see you making an effort.

**Girl On The Net says:** Cute idea, but if any other women join in the game, your adorable trick will just spell 'T.R.O.U.B.L.E.'

**FHM says:** There's a strong chance of possession by demons, and that didn't work out well in *The Exorcist*, did it?

05

You've carved her likeness into a pumpkin.

**Yasmin says:** All we really want is for you to put a little time and effort into something... it shows how much you care.

**Girl On The Net says:** If you did this for me I would shag you on the spot.

**FHM says:** Book March off work and get practising.

06

You've given all of your little cousin's sweets to her with a note saying, 'I didn't think you could get any sweeter x'.

**Yasmin says:** I like the thought, but you shouldn't steal from the kids.

**Girl On The Net says:** Excellent seduction tactic. I am 80 per cent more likely to fancy someone if they give me food.

**FHM says:** Sweets are bad for children and make them run around like lunatics. Good work.

07

You've learned the entire routine to Michael Jackson's *Thriller* and make everyone watch until you get it right.

**Yasmin says:** If you did it once, I'd think you were funny.

Making us watch it over and over seems like you're a bit into yourself.

**Girl On The Net says:**

I reckon you'd get a maximum of two attempts before I wandered off to refill my drink. If you're going to do it, you'd better nail it first time.

**FHM says:** Stick with the Macarena.

08

Your zombie costume is so realistic, the army have set up a biohazard quarantine around the house.

**Yasmin says:** That's cool – it shows you can commit to something and follow it though.

**Girl On The Net says:**

Scientific studies have shown that fear is often linked to arousal. That's one reason we love horror movies. So why not?

**FHM says:** Whether or not she could survive the inevitable zombie apocalypse should be the first question you ask yourself. If not, walk away.



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PL

MARCH MADNESS  
ELEVEN FUN PLACES  
OUTSIDE THE VIS





\* Disclaimer: Map not to scale.

# THE TEAM

## WHAT FHMERS HAVE BEEN UP TO THIS MONTH

### YOU DON'T DRINK BEER, THE BEER DRINKS YOU

One of those days when the weather is so fine you can't sit in the office and have to head directly to the nearest bar. Celebrating a successful February edition with the effervescent Nimrat Kaur on the cover with not pitchers, but towers, of super strong beer that led to a game of truth or dare. Unfortunately, no photographic evidence exists of the end of this evening. The next day we did, however, find a waiter's apron, an ashtray, several napkins with phone numbers and a used condom in 'someone's' laptop bag.



### JOEN PA LEG SO (BHUTANESE FOR WELCOME)

Sudhakar went to Bhutan. Flirted with a lot of women and finally found his true love when she came knocking at his door at 10 pm. The two have been in touch ever since and sing songs, record them and exchange them over WhatsApp. It is incidental that his current girlfriend (who is not the girl he met in Bhutan) had her birthday recently. We are proud that he is finally two timing internationally.



### ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH

We're glad auto rickshaw driver unions in Delhi have decided to go all New York City with these 'On-Duty-Off-Duty' signs that include their base destination. Glad, because we finally don't have to waste time hailing autos going the wrong way. We're gladder that one speeding rickshaw hit that bump just as office intern Simrita was passing by.



### A TULU BABY SHOWER; US FULL POWER

A bayake (baby shower) celebrates the first pregnancy of the daughter-in-law of the house where the mum-to-be (Vandana, Prakash Shetty's wife) has to now prepare herself for the final months before delivery and eat whatever she wants. During the initial months of pregnancy there are limitations to what the mother can eat. So on bayake, she can go the whole hog on a range of delicacies. We did too.



FHM India  
Deputy  
Editor Colin  
Fernandes

### GHOST SPOTTING IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DELHI

The erstwhile Connaught Place may be the tallest part of New Delhi's skyline, but it is also home to several enormous old mansions, deserted and disputed, some since 1947. This one has a particularly strange story attached to it. According to the caretaker, a distant relative of the regal owner stole a battle tank from the royal armoury and used it to blast holes in the building to drive out his 'vermin-like cousins'. Apparently, he was driven away after the caretaker, the gardener, their boss and his wife threw dozens of No Parking signs at him. Yeah, we think the caretaker's been smoking the funny stuff too. Meanwhile, Colin appears to have found a way in to the only toilet probably still working in this dump.

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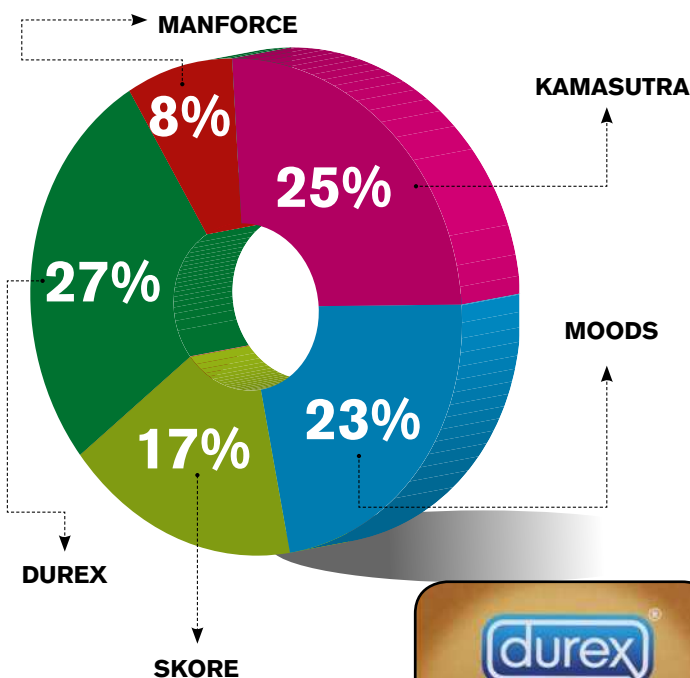


## SAY IT WITH RUBBER

THIS MAY BE THE MOST USEFUL SURVEY OF THE YEAR FOR YOU. WE ASKED READERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY WHAT THEY PREFERRED WHEN IT CAME TO PROVIDING KIDS AND AIDS. THEY GAVE THEIR VIEW OF THE TOP FIVE CONDOM BRANDS IN INDIA.

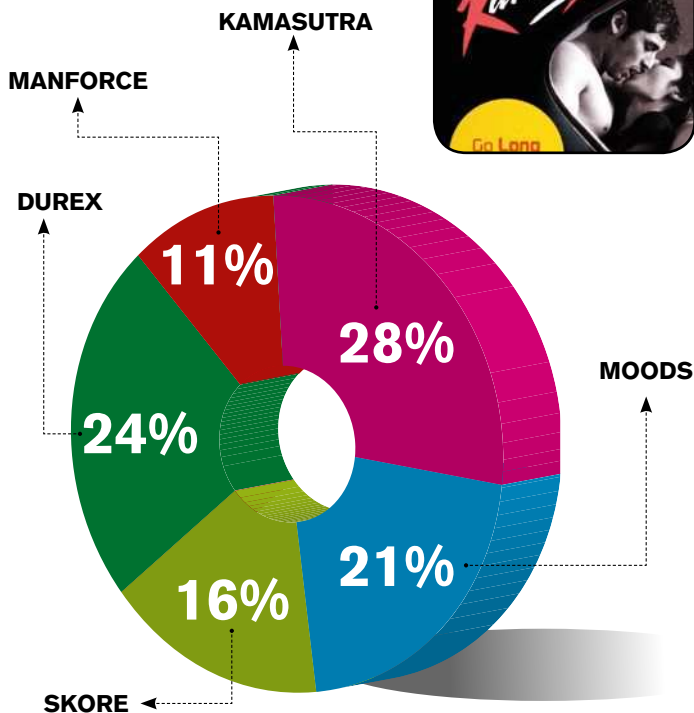
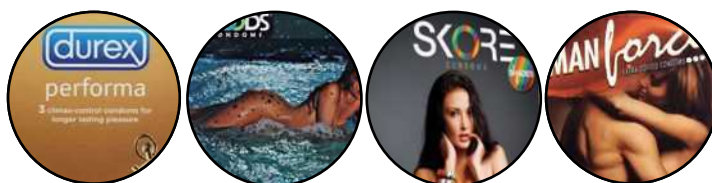


### BRAND RECALL



"I was in class 11 when I bought my first condom. And I thought Durex was another word for it."

— Shruti Golatkar, Mumbai



"We hardly ever need an extra lubricant when using Durex. It's my personal favourite."

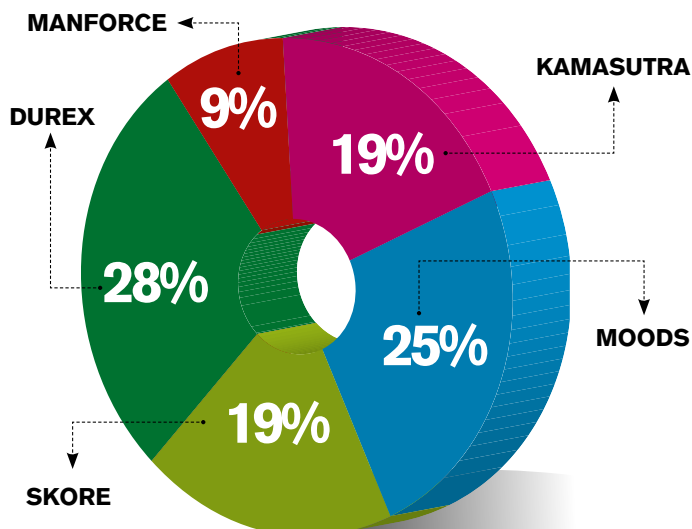
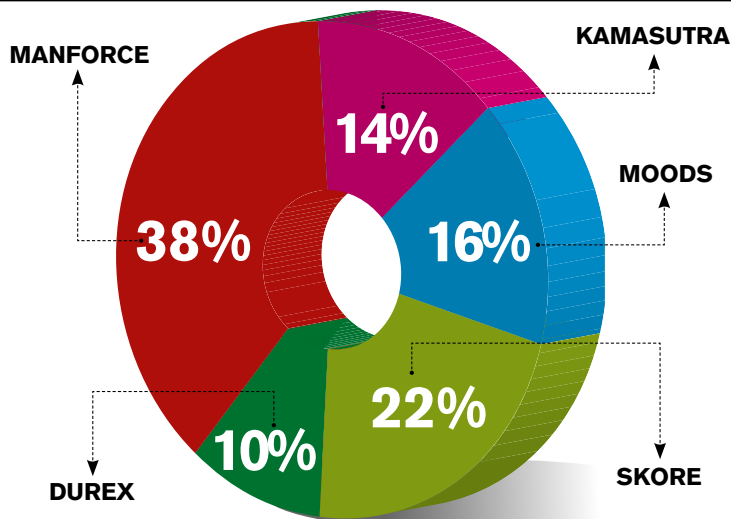
— Vaishali Rawat, Delhi



### LUBRICATION

# UNRELIABLE

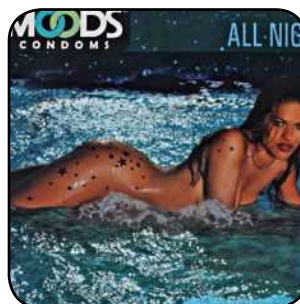
"Manforce is a nightmare for those with stamina! We decided to try the blue pill for this New Year's and bloody each condom broke in our pack of 10."  
 – Bhargavi Panchal, Bengaluru



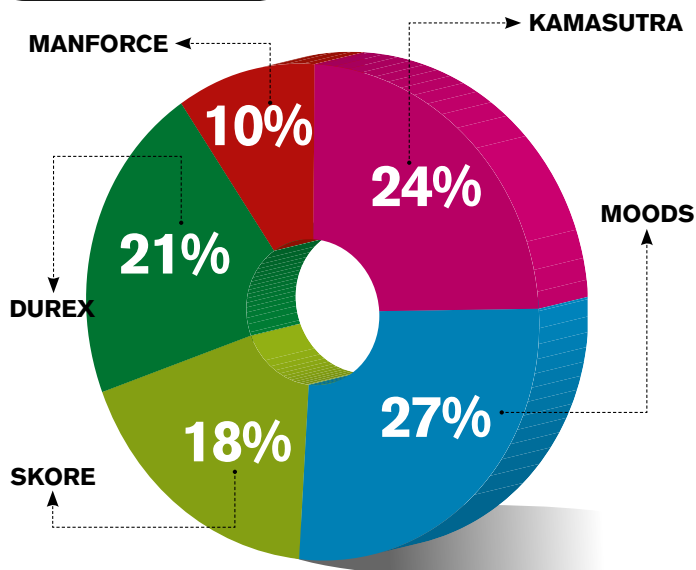
## SENSITIVITY

"My boyfriend adores Sunny Leone and quite obviously his choice of latex too shifted to Manforce. Honestly, I don't feel the thing at all, when we're at it!"  
 – Anushree Datta, Bengaluru

## LONGEVITY







"We've noticed a pleasant shift in the usual time that he lasts for. It's pretty amazing for me, if you know what I mean!"  
 – Radhika Sharma, Delhi



# Foam Face Off

Girls like it clean. Ladies like it clear. Take our survey on shaving creams that were invented in 3,000 BC and still serve your manscaping purposes

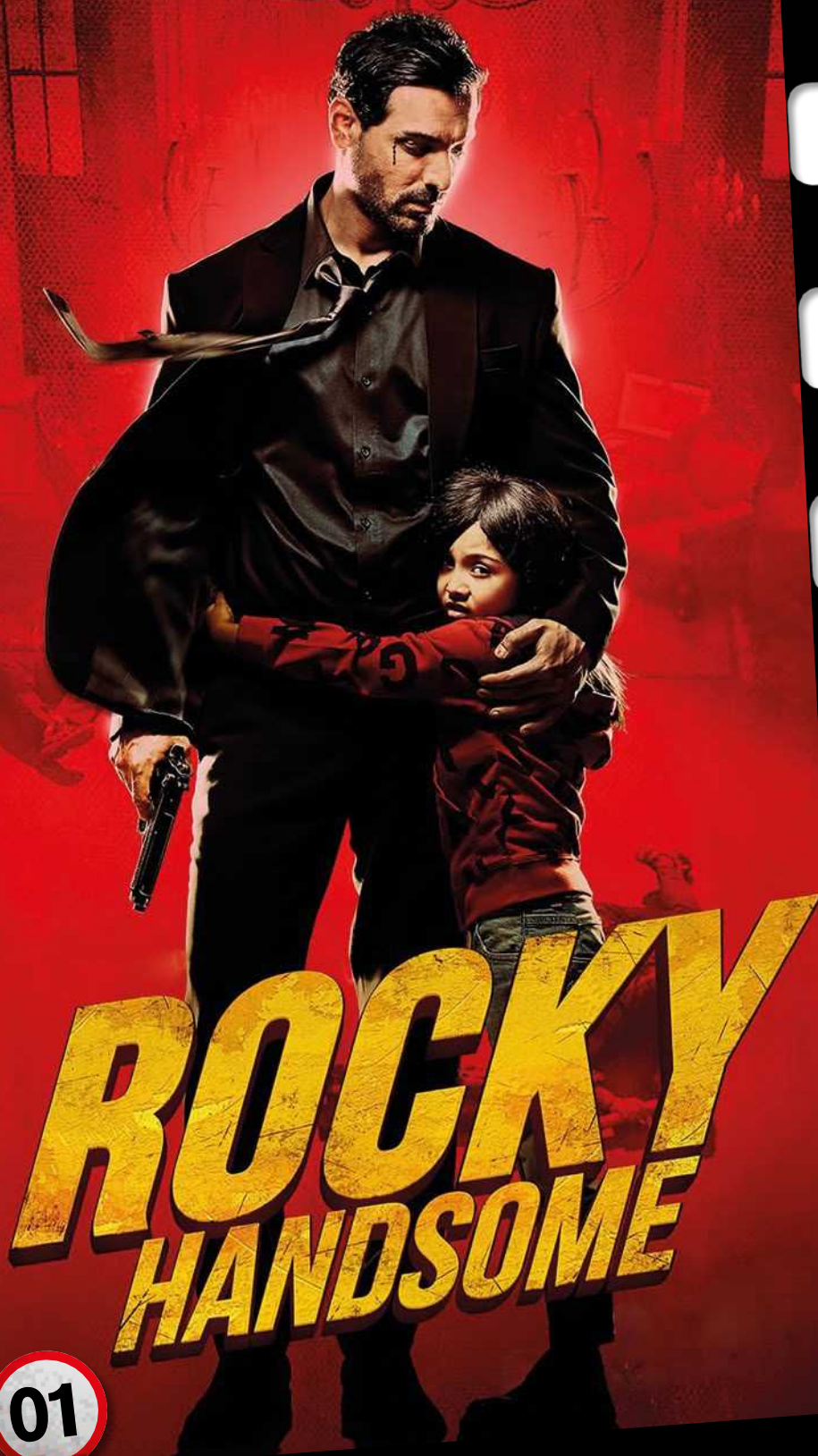
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Which is the first brand that comes to your mind when you hear the words 'shaving cream'?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Which shaving cream provides the richest lather?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Which brand has the best packaging?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Which brand has the best fragrance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
According to you, which shaving cream is the worst?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Share your worst shaving experience with us in 250 words at [fhm@tcg.media](mailto:fhm@tcg.media). Select entries will be published in the next edition of *FHM*. A few lucky winners will get prizes worth ₹2,900.

\* FHM India, 101, Arunachal Building, 19, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi -110001, India.





**01**

**(Action)**

An eight year old girl gets kidnapped and her dearest 'Handsome' embarks on a mission against the drug mafias to get her back. *Rocky Handsome* is a raw and real action thriller with everything you can ever expect in an action-packed film along with an emotional twist which shows a beautiful bond between a man and a child. John Abraham is back with his eight packs and biceps to die for. No wonder he followed a strict exercise regime for this one.

**Cast: John Abraham, Shruti Hassan and Nathalia Kaur ; Release date: 15th Mar**



## 02 KAPOOR & SONS (SINCE 1921) (Rom-com)

Love triangles can never go wrong in Bollywood till one of the guys turn out to be gay! This modern drama revolves around a dysfunctional Kapoor family. The movie will show Rishi Kapoor as grandfather of two brothers who are fighting one another for their common love interest. The story takes an interesting turn when one of them reveals his sexual orientation. Produced by Karan Johar, exotic locations, drama, tears, laughs and a happy ending can't be ruled out.

**Cast:** Rishi Kapoor, Siddharth Malhotra, Fawad Khan and Alia Bhatt ; **Release date:** 18th Mar



## 03 BATMAN VS SUPERMAN – DAWN OF JUSTICE (Action)

What happens when two protectors of the world decide to take each other on? Well, as the title suggests, Superman and Batman confront each other and try to prove who is better. Now its up to them to set aside their differences and take on a new threat — Doomsday — created by Lex Luthor who is set to destroy Metropolis. Can our favourite superheroes come together as a team along with Wonder Woman to stop the destruction? Will there be peace again?

**Cast:** Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill, Amy Adams and Gal Gadot ; **Release date:** 25th Mar



## 04 LONDON HAS FALLEN (Thriller)

When the British Prime Minister dies under mysterious circumstances, his funeral becomes a target for terrorists. The responsibility for countering the terrorists' plan lies in the hands of Secret Service agent Mike Banning (Gerard Butler), the President (Aaron Eckhart) and Vice President (Morgan Freeman) of the USA and an MI-6 agent (Charlotte Riley).

**Cast:** Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart, Charlotte Riley and Morgan Freeman ; **Release date:** 4th Mar



## 05 JAI GANGAAJAL (Drama)

If you think our sexy actresses cannot be tough, then this one is for you. In his sequel to *Gangaajal*, director Prakash Jha has replaced Ajay Devgn with a badass Priyanka Chopra (Abha Mathur), who is appointed as the first female SP in a rustic Bihari district. Abha takes on some powerful and influential local goons while her own department goes against her.

**Cast:** Priyanka Chopra, Prakash Jha and Rahul Bhatt ; **Release date:** 4th Mar

# — MAHINDRA — SPELLS MOJO

**T**here are many things which lead to a bike finally getting a shape. Since the dawn of 2014, when I first heard the name of Mahindra Mojo, I was waiting for it to show up. And finally it did. Since the first model showcased in 2010 to finally launching the bike in 2015, Mahindra Two Wheelers Limited did all their homework over the years. Before seeing the light of the day, test riders were given the bike to test it on diverse Indian roads and climate conditions that could challenge its build, and not to mention the limits that experienced bikers and tourers would take it to.

## MAHINDRA MOJO

**Engine:** 300 CC,  
4 Stroke, DOHC

**Power:** 20 kW

**Torque:** 30 Nm

**Price:** ₹1,70,000

*A sports scrambler in the form of a tourer. This naked bike from Mahindra Two Wheelers has more oomph than Austin Powers. Maybe that's why it's called the Mojo.*



## CRUISE CONTROL

*The digital console is your constant companion on the road, providing a steady stream of data.*

*Up front, the twin eyebrow-style, 8mm LED lights only add to the menacing look.*



### THE FIRST LOOK

After weeks of nail biting suspense, there it was in my parking space. I was excited as anyone could be and the look of the bike made me leap astride and jam the keys in the finely-placed lock on the tank. As I switched the ignition on and gently squeezed the clutch to rev the bike up, there was a bubbly rumble in the neighbourhood. A pleasant surprise. The twin gold tubes of the exhausts is now the signature style of Mahindra and unlike the Centuro, the yellow pipes in the Mojo are an integral part of the chassis that supports the fuel tank. The handlebar, grip and switches are all at a comfortable distance and the speedometer is impressive too. A side stand reminder, two-trip meters, clock, and a special feature of recording the top speed means that you can't lie to your girl about how fast you're going. A LED light that follows the tachometer is a striking feature of the bike. The dual headlamps are powered by a battery which is electronically disabled when the engine is turned off.

From the rear, the twin exhaust gave an impression of double the rumble, but

according to Mahindra, it is more of a style statement than an actual, functional requirement.

### THE RIDE

The upright riding stance may give some the idea that this machine is a sedate beast but as soon as you release the clutch on first gear, the perception changes. This machine can run. Yes, it really can. My regular ride is a puny 150cc (*Name removed to not offend advertisers: Editor*) and the serious heft of the Mojo's steering makes you think twice about handling it lightly. After some time, the impression changes as soon as the bike picks up pace and the gears shift from one right up till six on this constant mesh gearbox. The Mojo is more of a get-used-to-me bike that takes time for you to like it or hate it, but there is no hanging in between.

On an extended weekend, having been cockblocked by traffic in the city, it was time for a test on the highways. On the Yamuna Expressway, it touched 100 kph in the fourth gear and there was no strain on the engine. It could go more, I thought. The 300 cc engine with

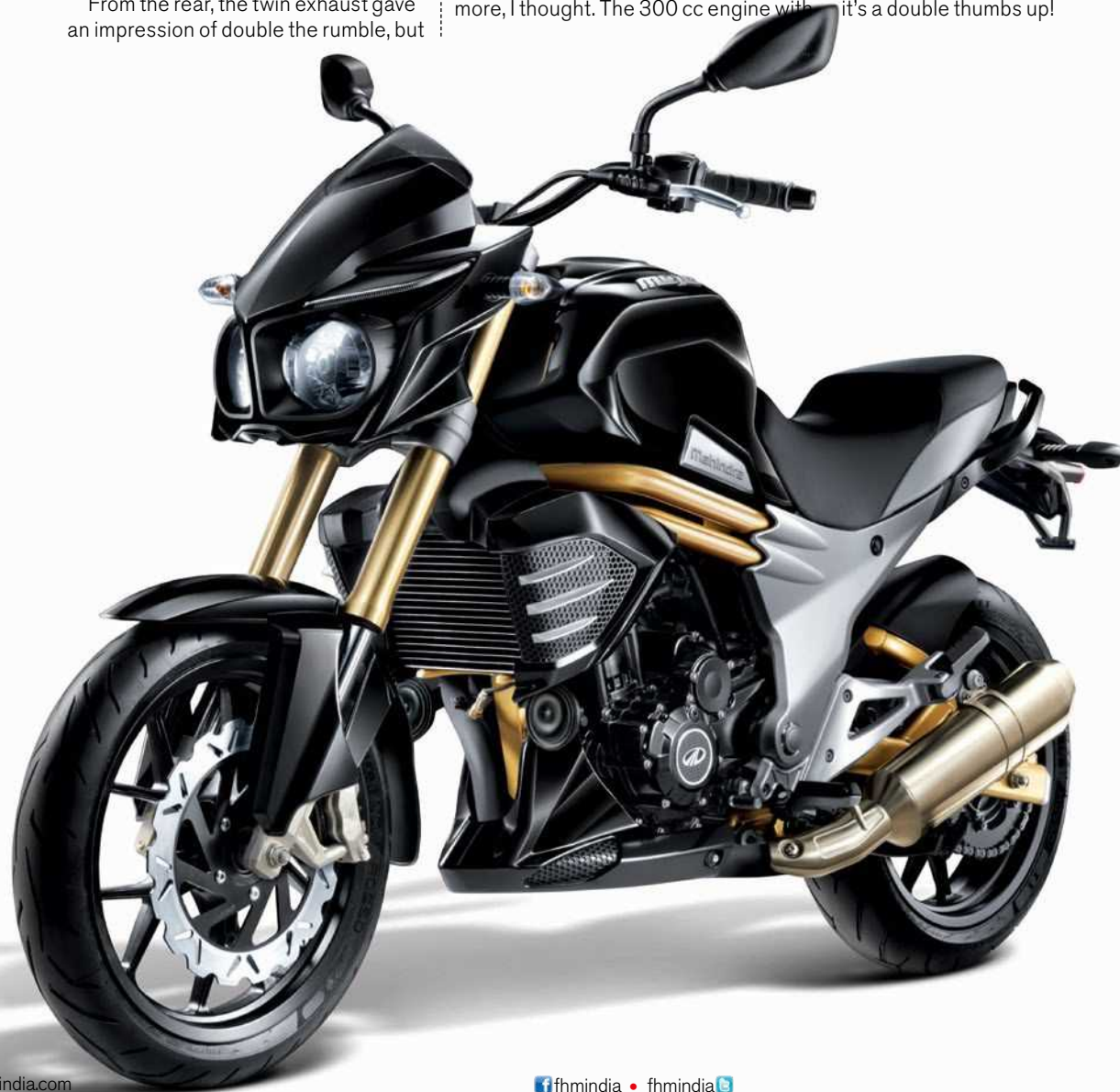
### MOTORFACT

**TOP SPEED**  
**155kph**  
**0-100 KPH: 8 SECONDS**

a maximum power of 27 bhp was cruising at 139 kph (yes, my top speed is still recorded) in sixth gear. With quick and responsive gears, this is where this sporty Mahindra takes the cake. Its biggest strength lies in handling high speeds comfortably. The 320 mm front disc adds to the confidence, braking with responsiveness as you hit it. The Royal Enfield-esque thumps just made my day on the Expressway. It's a clear winner in its one-of-the-kind segment.

### VERDICT

Mahindra has delivered on all the hard work it did over the years to present the Mojo in its present form. There are no cons that I can point out, but it is the pricing of the bike that will make or break it. For me, it's a double thumbs up!





Everyone has two cents. If you throw in your two cents, and it lands; great, if it doesn't, maybe you get the next one.

# IT'S not bragging IF IT'S TRUE

**GABRIEL MACHT, WHO PLAYS THE MAGNETIC NEW YORK LAWYER, HARVEY SPECTER, IN THE POPULAR TV SERIES, *SUITS*, TALKS TO *FHM* ABOUT HIS CHARACTER IN THE ONGOING SEASON 5.**

***FHM:* I always saw Harvey as a powerhouse with the best one-liners, obviously, being the main guy. Is there anything about his character that you don't like playing as much? Anything that you're uncomfortable with?**

**Gabriel Macht:** Anything I'm uncomfortable with? Ummm.

**Because he seems so much fun to play. But is there any part of it that's not?**

Well, if you must know the truth... (*Laughs*) Here's how I look at it. First of all, let's just say I think you're right. There is so much to play. There're tonnes of colours that he's able to work with. Very often he's a very aggressive, defensive guy

who is a bit unhinged, and he takes things very personally. And he's angst-ridden. So, often, when you have to get inside of that state of mind, it's draining... as an actor. It's a total challenge but it's awesome to play. When it's all put together, it's like a great character that you've seen this guy covering for so many years. And now we're seeing underneath where it's all coming from... how he's sort of like a loose cannon, and why, as far as his abandonment issues. As an actor I'm so different than this guy that it's a challenge to play, but it's also like, to be in that head space 12 to 14 hours a day! It's a draining thing. And I tell the writers, "This is great stuff, but just so you know, I am super duper exhausted by the end of

the day, because I've got to be, like, in people's faces, all the time."

**You've taken on some extra activities. And you're directing again this season, is that correct?**

We're still figuring it out. Due to scheduling and my personal life, I don't know if it's going to happen this year, but next year for sure. But I so enjoyed directing. I loved it. It was just a fantastic experience.

**Yeah. And you tried producing as well?**

Yeah.

**What does that entail? How much does that add into the dynamic to the job?**

The way that it works on this show, as far as a producer goes, is when you have ideas, you throw them into the mix, and when you want to be involved, everyone's listening. So it becomes collaborative at that point. If I didn't want to do a thing, I could still get away with having that credit, for some reason...

**Yeah...**

...When you see actors that are producers, most of the time it's like, here's the bone. But it depends on what you do with it. So there have been a lot of casting ideas that have come across the table. And when it comes to the aesthetic or planning or where the character's going, as a producer, you feel like it's your job to throw in. My perspective is that it's a very collaborative experience. The showrunner/creator sort of makes the final call. But you see a bunch of producers' credits on television. Everyone has two cents. If you throw in your two cents, and it lands; great, if it doesn't, maybe you get the next one. That's how I look at it.

**How about directing?**

I can't wait to do it again. It was an excellent experience. I loved being on the floor with everyone. The ensemble of actors was really with me in the trenches. I happen to have

gotten sick on the first episode. I had to be this aggressive guy who has all these hats on. It was funny. There were days when I was like,

in slowly pulling that out. As you guys saw with the first episode, Harvey's now in therapy, and he's actually getting in touch with his feelings.

And, like, all the strong women in his life have all said, "You need to be in touch with your feelings. You need to reveal. You need to be vulnerable. You're not going to get to anything if you're not showing yourself." I think he's slowly trying to do that. I think he got burned big time by his mother. And that's what we'll figure out through Season Five. But I think it's headed in an interesting place for him. Yeah.



okay, I'm the actor? Let me put on the director's hat. Oh, I'm the producer now. I've got to deal with scheduling and how we get to this location. Is this location going to work? And all that stuff.

Watch new episodes of *Suits* every Sunday at 8pm only on Comedy Central – *Your Happy Place!*

**And you're the producer now?**

Yeah, e

**Has it been seeing softer seasons?**

I think a always character dimensions seeing week, s challenge reason macho I think h insecure underne poking actually and wh engross way hov Having writing



## BEST OF HARVEY

"I M not about caring. I M a

"I M against having emotions, not aga

"I could be drinking a juice box  
kick v

"It s not bragging if it s true.,,

## Bloke Test

This month's challenger...

# Sartek

The first Asian DJ/Producer to sign up with Hardwell owned Revealed Recordings, Sarthak Sardana a.k.a. Sartek, is also the only Indian to be on Beatport's top 100. But is he ready for the manliest test on Earth?



### 01 Have you ever stared someone out?

A lot of times. I once stared at a fan's (really pretty!) eyes for 30 seconds constantly. I am such a digger for hot lips (no pun intended) that I forget the rest of the body and kept staring at them till I realised I've been caught staring at the wrong thing.

**BLOKE** ✓

### 02 Have you ever been face-to-face with someone else's fart?

Yes. Once. In an flight. It was so big that I could tell he had tandoori chicken last night. Once more at the console, when I was getting ready to play and the opening DJ farted so badly that the headphones almost slipped out of my hand.

**NOT BLOKE** ✗

### 03 What's the most masculine thing you've ever done?

Played chess and more importantly shaved my beard.

**BLOKE** ✓

### 04 What's the biggest thing you've ever set fire to?

My ego. I was an egotist at one point of time, but now I've realised there is a better life beyond just thinking of myself as the centre of the

universe. Also, my own suitcase while trying to burn and cut the seal lock with a lighter.

**BLOKE** ✓

### 05 Have you ever growled at yourself in the mirror?

Never needed to.

**BLOKE** ✓

### 06 Have you ever missed a punch?

I can't remember any incident distinctly but I've been involved in many fights during my school days. So, yes, obviously missed a few and caught a few. Recently a fan wanted to a picture so badly that he was about to punch the security guard just an inch away from me.

**NOT BLOKE** ✗

### 07 Have you ever worn a trilby?

No. But I know I would rock it someday.

**NOT BLOKE** ✗

### 08 Have you ever used a voucher on a date?

I am not a big voucher collector. I prefer the classy hotel membership cards on my dates.

**BLOKE** ✓

### 09 Have you ever fraped someone?

Just once. I fraped one of my

ex girlfriends with "I'm pregnant again". Got into so much trouble that I decided never to do it again. Had a blast though!

**NOT BLOKE** ✗

### 10 Have you ever shaved part of your body other than your face?

Yes, almost everywhere but surprisingly not the chest yet, as I am inspired by Anil Kapoor.

**BLOKE** ✓

### 11 Have you ever had a successful DIY session?

Never tried yet but planning to host one soon.

**NOT BLOKE** ✗

### 12 Has a girl ever put make-up on you?

Always! Before my shoots and yes, sometimes before the big gigs! It enhances my eyes...

**BLOKE** ✓

### 13 Have you ever used petrol to start a fire?

Never. Fire is one thing which scares the shit out of me but yes I've burnt my suitcase once using a lighter.

**NOT BLOKE** ✗

### 14 What's the biggest sandwich you've ever made?

A lot of times when there is

nothing to eat, I take two pieces of bread and stab in whatever left-over food is at home to create a multi-cuisine sandwich. Once by mistake, I put ketchup on a Nutella sandwich...

**BLOKE** ✓

### 15 What's the strangest thing you've drunk from?

A chalice. Like a boss.

**BLOKE** ✓

## 09/15

We're pretty proud that you signed up with Hardwell, but you will still need to up your game if you don't want to be the douche who has to hard sell himself....

Check out Sartek's latest release, I'm Trippin on Dutch DJ, Armin van Buuren's label.





**L'Officiel India**  
Luxury fashion bible

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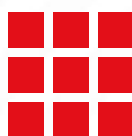
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## WE HAVE FOUR BUT WE ARE#1

Under a robust  
umbrella, the company's  
prowess lies in creating  
unity in diversity.



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---

# THE HOT HARYANVI PARINEETI CHOPRA AND WHY SHE'S THE ONE YOUR DAD WARNED YOU ABOUT!

What the heck did she do to get into this insane shape? Far from voluptuous and not in a mood to achieve size zero, Parineeti talks fitness, a break for herself and answers a barrage of uncomfortable questions...

---

Words **SUDHAKAR JHA** // Photography **ERRIKOS ANDREOU** // Styling **ZENIA BARRETTO**  
Hair **SUSAN EMMANUEL** // Make-up **ROSARIO BELMONTE AT ANIMA CREATIVE**  
Location **VIVANTA BY TAJ - PRESIDENT, MUMBAI**



**T**he winters were getting over and so were our days of slothfulness. And that's when we decided to do something for March which would give us a sense of summers

getting here sooner. It is with this intent that we got in touch with Parineeti Chopra for one of our hottest covers and bam, she was as excited as we were! As D-Day came, Satan played his part to act devilish with his deeds. But as you turn these pages, be rest assured that we were able to get the best of the other PeeCee from tinsel town. After coming back from a break (which she doesn't like it to be called) here's presenting, *hum sab ki pyari... Bindu*.

**FHM: Hi Parineeti, what's your take on the shoot? How did you like your first shoot with FHM?**

**Parineeti Chopra:** I really liked it. It was fun shooting with Erikkos for sure. I enjoy doing my shoots with him. And I like the way he shoots me. And of course it's my first cover with *FHM*, so, I just hope that it comes out really well.

**How far can we lure you to go in the next one?**

(*Haha*) It will totally depend on you guys. Whenever you guys feel that I will be good for the cover, just call me and we will shoot together.

**What have you done to your body? What did you eat or didn't eat, might I ask?**

It took me almost a year. I started working on my body the way I have never worked out before and I just started taking care of my diet. It was a mixture of good habits, »

Bustier: Marks & Spencer; Shirt: Zara; Skirt: Rohit Gandhi + Rahul Khanna



**“**  
Singing is more  
of a passion for  
me as I have  
never really  
recorded a  
song... so, it  
isn't as easy  
as it seems.  
**”**

maintaining a healthy lifestyle, drinking a lot of water, eating on time and exercising well. I started following a more balanced regimen.

**What did your fitness regime look like?**

It took me 12 months to get into this shape, but I'm still a work in progress. I am still giving myself some time to get into the ideal shape and weight that I want. I did a mixture of kalaripayattu and working out in the gym and I did yoga as well.

**What do you think is your sexiest physical attribute?**

Umm... that is for you people to tell me. I can't say that about

myself. It's very hard to do it.

**You announced a new movie, *Meri Pyari Bindu*, after a gap of two years. Where were you all this while?**

I actually did my last movie in November 2014 and have announced the new movie in February 2016, so it's really only been a year. I wanted some time off to do up my house, which I recently bought. It took me a lot of time to figure out the interiors. Also, I wanted space for myself. I had worked three years without any breaks, so I just wanted some down time. I had neglected my health and I wanted to get back where I wanted to be. And now I'm raring to go, all guns blazing.

**We got to know that you hold a degree in music. Singing must have been a cakewalk in *Meri Pyari Bindu*...**

Cakewalk would be very pompous of

me to say because I haven't sung professionally anywhere. Of course I have been doing stage shows since childhood, as I studied music. But singing is more of a passion for me as I have never really recorded a song... so, it isn't as easy as it seems. I did record a line or two from the song for the trailer though.

**What kind of music do you like?**

I am very moody about my choices for songs. Sometimes I would like ghazals, sometimes, I'm in a mood for really commercial songs, hip-hop, R&B. It could be anything. I'm not at all stereotypical in my music sense.

**Who's your favourite singer from yesteryears?**

It has to be Lataji for sure. She is the eternal goddess of playback singing. I would always listen to her songs and sing them. »

Top and  
Skirt: H&M

# Q'S

**DEFINE EACH CHARACTER IN ONE LINE...**

DEC 2011  
**LADIES VS RICKY BEHL**

**DIMPLE**

Dimple was really funny and adorable.

MAY 2012  
**ISHAQZAADE**

**ZOYA**

Innocently aggressive is the word to describe her...

SEP 2013  
**SHUDDH DESI ROMANCE**

**GAYATRI**

She was very strong and independent.

FEB 2014  
**HASEE TOH PHASEE**

**MEETA**

Meeta was quirky and fun to be with.

SEP 2014  
**DAAWAT-E-ISHQ**

**GULREZ**

Simple and family oriented.

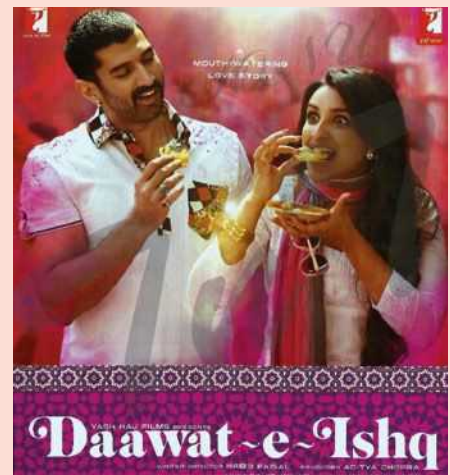
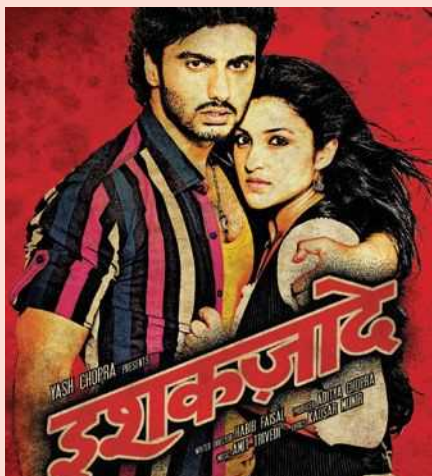
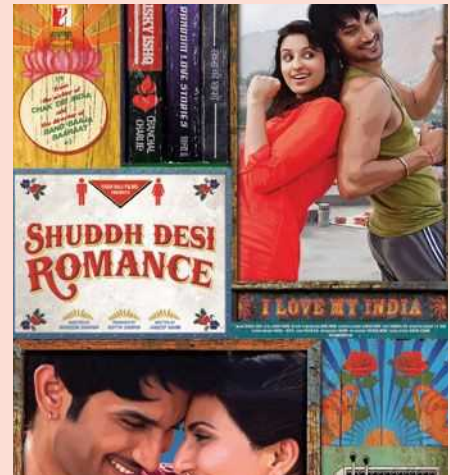
NOV 2014  
**KILL DIL**

**DISHA**

Cool! Yes, she was really cool!

## PARINEETI'S MOVIES TILL DATE...

6 films in 5 years, and there has been no stopping Parineeti as two Filmfares and a National Award mention ain't no joke!





“

I think love is the most important thing in my life. I'm a person who gives a lot of love to everyone, be it my family or friends.

”

Bra: Marks & Spencer; Dress: Thomas Wylde

**Ok. Moving on, what kind of a person are you, introvert, extrovert or somewhere in between?**

That is the most subjective question anybody has ever asked me. You will have to spend years and years with me to know me. Overall I'm quite a positive and enthusiastic person. I like to laugh a lot. I am so lazy sometimes that I can spend three days in my bed watching TV. I am very honest in life and this is the quality which nobody can take away from me. I don't mince words, I don't hide things.

**How do you manage your anger?**

I don't have any anger in me. And if I do get angry, which is a rarity, I take some time for myself, calm down and then go back to the person to talk. I think communication is a very good thing. Anger is something that can ruin things if it is not channelised well. Having said that, I hardly get angry. So it doesn't matter to me.

**If you had to be one half of a lesbian romance and had to pick your female co-star, who would it be?**

Nobody. For me, even hypothetically thinking about it is not possible. It's beyond my thinking.

**And what if you were a man. Who would have been your gay partner?**

Nobody again... I can't think of anything.

**How important is love in your life?**

I think love is the most important thing in my life. I'm a person who gives a lot of love to everyone, be it my family, my friends or to people I have been in a relationship with. I just love the idea of love.

**The last time we heard, you were single. Are you dating someone now?**

No, I'm still single. And I don't think I'm gonna be dating someone anytime soon because I can't find anybody to date.

**So, do we have a chance of swiping you right on Tinder then?**

No. I am not on Tinder. I have heard of it from people, but I don't know how it works. I don't believe in dating apps. I think if you need to connect with a person, it has to be one on one and not through any app or something.

**Five things that a man needs to do to get your attention...**

Just have a great conversation with me. Make me laugh, take me out for a great meal and that will be enough for you to be my friend, if not date you.

**So, did you find any of these qualities in your co-stars with whom you've worked with?**

Yes, of course. All of them have this quality. I have worked with almost everybody from the young lot and all of them are amazing friends. I talk to them, chill with them and they are brilliant people.

**Five things that will turn you off.**

A disrespectful person. A person who smells »





**“**  
**You will have to**  
**spend years and**  
**years with me to**  
**know me. Overall**  
**I’m quite a**  
**positive and**  
**enthusiastic**  
**person.**  
**”**

Bustier and  
Skirt: Zara

**“You know, there is a guy who keeps going to my house in Ambala, meets my mom and gives her gifts to send to me in Mumbai. He visits home on my birthdays, my family members' birthdays. He never skips any event. He just comes, meets mom and leaves.”**

bad. Anybody who lies to me. I like simple people so anybody who tries to show off just goes in my bad books.

**Who has been the most comfortable actor to work with in your five-year-old Bollywood career?**

All of them have been amazing to work with. I share my best rapport with Ranveer Singh and Arjun Kapoor. I worked with these two at the beginning of my career and I'm still friends with them. I feel very comfortable with them. They are really respectful, very well brought up boys. It's very hard to choose one of them.

**You have done some social-norm defying roles like Zoya in *Ishaqzaade* or Gayatri of *Shuddh Desi Romance*. Are you somewhat like that in your real life as well?**

No, I would not say that. I am not that aggressive, opinionated and strong as these girls were in the movies, but I definitely hold my own opinions. However, I am not so much like the characters I've played.

**National Award mention or Filmfare Award for best actress. Which one made you jump off the couch?**

They were both amazing. I was so humbled to get both the awards. It was crazy when I heard about the National Award. I still remember the day, I put on the news immediately and everybody was messaging me and calling me! It was an amazing day.

**How do you unwind after a long day?**

I literally have the longest hot shower that I can. I de-stress by watching TV or reading a book.

**Who's been your craziest fan?**

**What did he/she do for you? Some crazy fan story that you have...**

Oh, yes. You know, there is a guy who just keeps going to my house in Ambala, meets my mom and gives her gifts to send to me in Mumbai. He visits home on my birthdays and my family members' birthdays. He never skips any event. I've never got to meet him as he never leaves his number. He just quietly comes and gives gifts to my mom and leaves. He is an anonymous fan!

**Is there a phobia that you'd like to conquer?**

I would like to conquer... umm... I have claustrophobia. Even in an elevator, I get very claustrophobic. I need a lot of light and air around me all the time. I just hope to get over that soon.

**Do you have a tattoo? If you were to get one, where would that be?**

No, I don't have any tattoo. I think the idea of getting inked is very painful.

**What do you prefer, cars or bikes? Are you a proud owner of any such machines?**

I prefer cars. I actually have a Jaguar XJL. It was my dream car which I bought two years ago. I was thrilled.

**What are your favourite tracks that you listen to almost every day these days?**

As I had explained earlier to you, I have different choices every day. It totally depends on the mood I am in.

**So, which song did you listen to before coming for the shoot?**

I was listening to One Direction... I was feeling like a teenager in the morning today.

**What are the five things that we'll always find with you?**

Umm... phone, perfume, keys, bag and my lip balm.

**First thing that comes to your mind when you hear the following word:**

- a. Love - Life
- b. Sex - Fun
- c. Condoms - Important
- d. Grapes - Tasty
- e. FHM - Hot

**Pick one and give a reason:**

- a. Road trips or flights? Flights. I like going to far off destinations
- b. Guns or roses? Roses, of course!
- c. Voluptuous figure or size zero? Neither. The fittest you.
- d. YRF or Dharma Production? A good film from wherever it comes.
- e. Arjun Kapoor or Ranveer Singh? Can't choose, love them both.
- f. Arranged marriage or lesbian affair? Neither.

**Any interesting and sexy avatar we can look forward to drooling over in the near future?**

Oh, you are yet to see it! It will come soon. **FHM**

**INSTA  
T IS  
MONT**



**PUCKER UP**  
“KJO WINNING THE POUT GAME. AS ALWAYS.”



**SHOPPING IN THE APPLE**  
“NEW YORK! (LOVE) BOOTS! (LUST)”



**IN DELHI**  
“IN KRISTY DE CUNHA. CHANNELLING THE INNER QUIRK IN ME!”



**DAISY LADY**  
“TODAY!!! WEARING MY HAPPIEST DRESS HAHA!”



**SNEAK SELFIE**  
“WHO WAS STALKING ME YESTERDAY!!!”



Dress: Thomas Wylde

INTRODUCING

देसी

GAME

OF

THRONES

**We always thought Robb and Rahul have much in common. Both took a hammering, politically speaking and their mothers... well, the less said about them the better. But then we realised we had stumbled onto a whole parallel universe with life imitating art in the most hilarious way. No offence to Tyrion Lannister/Peter Dinklage.**

WORDS: COLIN FERNANDES

Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental. This is meant as a piece of satire.

CATELYN & ROBB STARK.  
LAST SEEN: ENROUTE TO THE CHINTAN SHIVIR



THE TERRIBLE LANNISTER TWINS  
HAVE A TASK TO COMPLETE...

WHY ARE YOU  
WEARING THAT?

GOING TO  
INSPECT A COAL  
MINE...

DON'T BE LIKE THAT  
BAE, Y'KNOW WE NEED  
THE STUFF...

SNIFF \* SOLAR \* SNIFF

HELLO!  
TESLA?

MEANWHILE---

IS THE ISABGOL  
WORKING, BETA?

IT'S AMAZING!  
I FEEL SO JOFFED!

TOTALLY  
JOFFED!

BACK AT KING'S LANDING...



UPSET, M'LORD?

I'M F\$@!# BROKE!



BAD DREAM, M'LORD?



DREAMS!?!  
HUH!



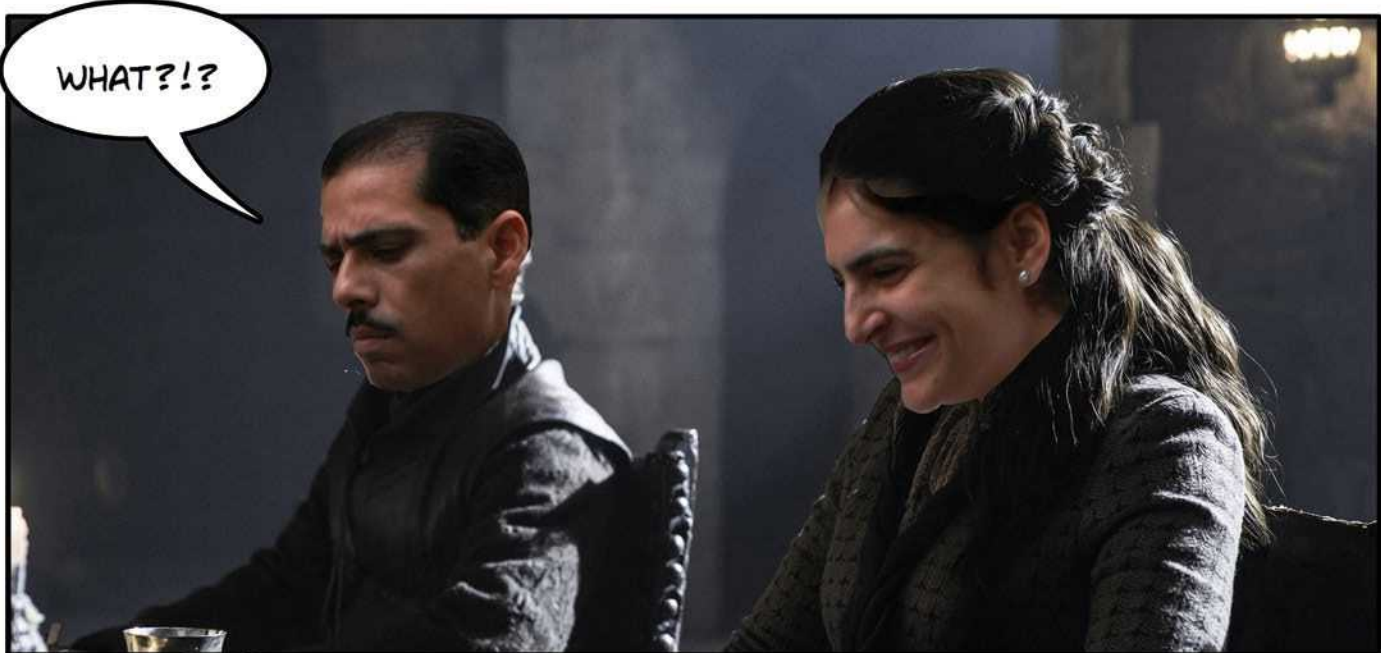
MORE RED BULL, M'LORD?

AND SO, THE FEASTING CONTINUES...

TO DLF'S  
DREADFORT!



WHAT?!?



SERIOUSLY...



TO BE CONTINUED...



**DEEPIKA PADUKONE**

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**NUMA**  
(QURESHI)  
THE THING ABOUT WASSEYPUR

**st**  
04/15



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# A CLOUD IN THE OCEAN

WITH A VORACIOUS WORLD CONSTANTLY  
STARVED FOR FASTER BANDWIDTH AND DATA  
SPACE, CONVENIENT, AUTONOMOUS SERVERS  
ARE THE NEED OF THE HOUR.

WORDS: ATHIMA CHANSANCHAI



In 2015, starfish, octopus, crabs and other Pacific Ocean life stumbled upon a temporary addition to the seafloor – more than half a mile from the shoreline: a 33,000-pound container. But in the ocean, 10 feet by 7 feet is quite small. The shrimp exploring the seafloor made more noise than the datacenter inside the container, which consumed computing power equivalent to 300 desktop PCs.

But the knowledge gained from the three months this vessel was underwater could help make future datacentres more sustainable, while at the same time, speeding data transmission and cloud deployment. And yes, maybe even someday, datacentres could become commonplace in seas around the world.

The technology to put sealed vessels underwater with computers inside isn't new. In fact, it was one Microsoft employee's experience serving on submarines that carry sophisticated equipment that got the ball rolling on this project. But Microsoft researchers do believe this is the first time a datacentre has been deployed below the ocean's surface. Going under water could solve several problems by introducing a new power source, greatly reducing cooling costs, closing the distance to connected populations and making it easier and faster to set up datacentres.

A little background gives context for what led to the creation of the vessel. Datacentres are the backbone of cloud computing and contain groups of networked computers that require a lot of power for all kinds of tasks: storing, processing and/or distributing massive amounts of information. The electricity that powers datacentres can be generated from renewable power sources such as wind and solar, or, in this case, perhaps wave or tidal power. When datacentres are closer to where people live and work, there is less "latency," which means that downloads, web browsing and games are all faster. With more and more organisations relying on the cloud, the demand for datacentres is higher than ever – as is the cost to build and maintain them.

All this combines to form the type of challenge that appeals to Microsoft Research teams who are experts at exploring out-of-the-box solutions.

Ben Cutler, the project manager who led the team behind this experiment, dubbed Project Natick, is part of a group within Microsoft Research that focuses on special projects. "We take a big whack at big problems, on a short-term basis. We take a look at something from a new angle, a different perspective, with a willingness to challenge conventional wisdom. So when a paper about putting datacentres

in the water landed in front of Norm Whitaker, who heads special projects for Microsoft Research NExT, it caught his eye.

"We're a small group, and we look at moonshot projects," Whitaker says. The paper came out of ThinkWeek, an event that encourages employees to share ideas that could be transformative to the company. "As we started exploring the space, it started to make more and more sense. We had a mind-bending challenge, but also a chance to push boundaries."

### ONE OF THE PAPER'S AUTHORS, SEAN JAMES, HAD SERVED IN THE NAVY FOR THREE YEARS ON SUBMARINES.

"I had no idea how receptive people would be to the idea. It's blown me away," says James, who has worked on Microsoft datacentres for the past 15 years, from cabling and racking servers to his current role as senior research program manager for the Datacentre Advanced Development team within Microsoft Cloud Infrastructure & Operations. "What helped me bridge the gap between datacentres and underwater is that I'd seen how you can put sophisticated electronics under water and keep it shielded from salt water. It goes through a very rigorous testing and design process. So I knew there was a way to do that." James recalled the century-old history of cables in oceans, evolving to today's fibre optics found all over the world.

"When I see all of that, I see a real opportunity that this could work," James says. "In my experience, the trick to innovating is not coming up with something brand new, but connecting things we've never connected before, pairing different technology together." Building on James's original idea, Whitaker and Cutler went about connecting the dots.

Cutler's small team applied science and engineering to the concept. A big challenge involved people. People keep datacentres running. But people take up space. They need oxygen, a comfortable environment and light. They need to go home at the end of the day. When they're involved you have to think about things like landscaping and security.

So the team moved to the idea of a "lights out" situation. A very simple place to house the datacentre, very compact and completely self-sustaining. And again, drawing from the submarine example, they chose a round container. "Nature attacks edges and sharp angles and it's the best shape for resisting pressure," Cutler says. That set the team down the path of trying to figure out how to make a datacentre that didn't need constant, hands-on supervision.

### THIS INITIAL TEST VESSEL WOULDN'T BE TOO FAR OFF-SHORE, SO THEY COULD HOOK INTO AN EXISTING ELECTRICAL GRID, BUT BEING IN THE WATER RAISED AN ENTIRELY NEW POSSIBILITY:

using the hydrokinetic energy from waves or tides for computing power. This could make datacentres work independently of existing

energy sources, located closer to coastal cities, powered by renewable ocean energy. That's one of the big advantages of the underwater datacentre scheme – reducing latency by closing the distance to populations and thereby speeding data transmission. Half of the world's population, Cutler says, lives within 120 miles of the sea, which makes it an appealing option.

This project also shows it's possible to deploy datacentres faster, turning it from a construction project – which require permits and other time-consuming aspects – to a manufacturing one. Building the vessel that housed the experimental datacentre only took 90 days. While every datacentre on land is different and needs to be tailored to varying environments and terrains, these underwater containers could be mass produced for very similar conditions underwater, which is consistently colder the deeper it is.

Cooling is an important aspect of datacentres, which normally run up substantial costs operating chiller plants and the like to keep the computers inside from overheating. The cold environment of the deep seas automatically makes datacentres less costly and more energy efficient.

### ONCE THE VESSEL WAS SUBMERGED LAST AUGUST, THE RESEARCHERS MONITORED THE CONTAINER FROM THEIR OFFICES IN BUILDING 99 ON MICROSOFT'S REDMOND CAMPUS.

Using cameras and other sensors, they recorded data like temperature, humidity, the amount of power being used for the system, even the speed of the current.

"The bottom line is that in one day this thing was deployed, hooked up and running. Then everyone is back here, controlling it remotely," Whitaker says. "A wild ocean adventure turned out to be a regular day at the office." A diver would go down once a month to check on the vessel, but otherwise the team was able to stay constantly connected to it remotely – even after they observed a small tsunami wave pass.

The team is still analyzing data from the experiment, but so far, the results are promising. "This is speculative technology, in the sense that if it turns out to be a good idea, it will instantly change the economics of this business," says Whitaker. "There are lots of moving parts, lots of planning that goes into this. This is more a tool that we can make available to datacentre partners. In a difficult situation, they could turn to this and use it." Christian Belady, general manager for datacentre strategy, planning and development at Microsoft, shares the notion that this kind of project is valuable for the research gained during the experiment. It will yield results, even if underwater datacentres don't start rolling off assembly lines anytime soon.

"While at first I was skeptical with a lot of questions. What were the cost? How do we power? How do we connect? However, at the end of the day, I enjoy seeing people push limits." Belady says. "The reality is that we always need to be pushing limits and try things out. The learnings we get from this are invaluable and will in some way manifest into future designs."

Belady, who came to Microsoft from HP in 2007, is always focused on driving efficiency in datacenters – it's a deep passion for him. It takes a couple of years to develop a datacentre, but it's



Each datacentre has the computing power of close to 300 PCs.



Although still at the experimental stage, the concept has proven great promise for the future.



The containers are built to withstand immense pressures and currents.



## SOME THINGS GIVING THIS GIZMO COMPANY

*The bottom of the ocean is a dark and mysterious place, filled with bizarre oddities.*



### ANGLERFISH

Belonging to the fish family Lophiiformes, the fleshy growth that acts as the lure is called the esca or illicium. Reminds us of Government.



### MOLINERE SCULPTURE PARK

Off the west coast of Grenada, British sculptor Jason Taylor's work was the world's first underwater sculpture park open for the public.



### THE NAUTILIUS

Don't believe us if you want to, but we know Captain Nemo's fabled monster submarine still swims the depths of the deep blue.



### JACK DAWSON

Jack still seems quite aghast that Rose just let him fall off the raft like that. Here's him complaining to the Oscar jury via Skype.

a business that changes hourly, he says, with demands that change daily. "You have to predict two years in advance what's going to happen in the business," he says.

Belady's team has succeeded in making datacentres more efficient than they've ever been. He founded an industry metric, power usage effectiveness (PUE), and in that regard, Microsoft is leading the industry. Datacentres are also using next-generation fuel cells – something James helped develop – and wind power projects like Keechi in Texas to improve sustainability through alternative power sources. Datacentres have also evolved to save energy by using outside air instead of refrigeration systems to control temperatures inside. Water consumption has also gone down over the years.

Belady, who says he "loved" this project, says he can see its potential as a solution

for latency and quick deployments. "But what was really interesting to me, what really surprised me, was to see how animal life was starting to inhabit the system," Belady says. "No one really thought about that."

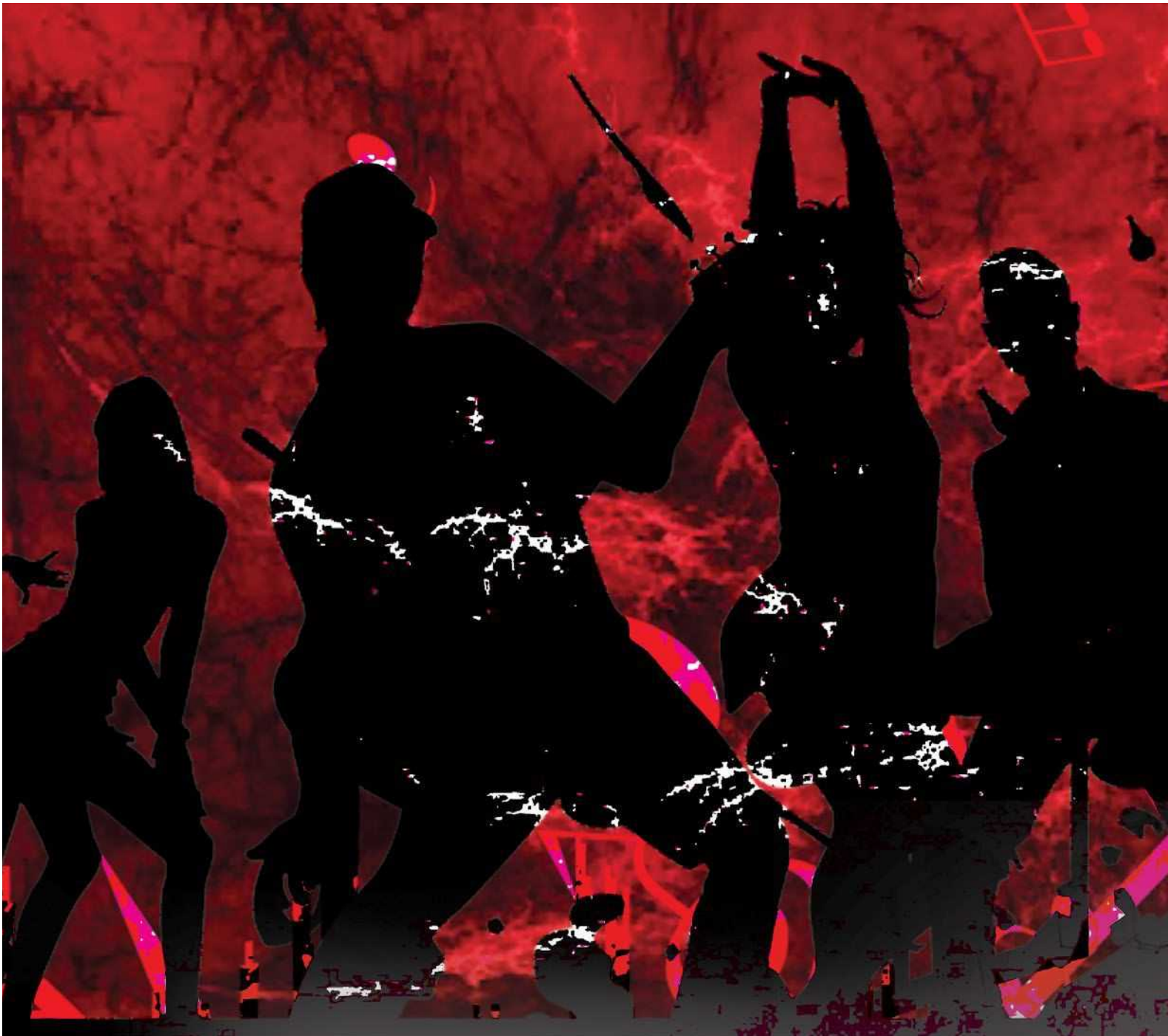
Whitaker found it "really edifying" to see the sea life crawling on the vessel, and how quickly it became part of the environment.

"You think it might disrupt the ecosystem, but really, it's just a tiny drop in an ocean of activity," he says. The team is currently planning the project's next phase, which could include a vessel four times the size of the current container with as much as 20 times the compute power. The team is also evaluating test sites for the vessel, which could be in the water for at least a year, deployed with a renewable ocean energy source. Meanwhile, the initial vessel is now back on land, sitting in the lot of one

of Microsoft's buildings. But it's the gift that keeps giving.

"We're learning how to reconfigure firmware and drivers for disk drives, to get longer life out of them. We're managing power, learning more about using less. These lessons will translate to better ways to operate our datacentres. Even if we never do this on a bigger scale, we're learning so many lessons," says Peter Lee, corporate vice president of Microsoft Research NExT. "One of the things that's so fun about a CEO like Satya Nadella is that he's hard-nosed business savvy, customer obsessed, but another half of this brain is a dreamer who loves moonshots. When I see something like Natick, you could say it's a moonshot, but not one completely divorced from Microsoft's core business. I'm really tickled by it. It really perfectly fits the left brain/right brain combination we have right now in the company." **FHM**



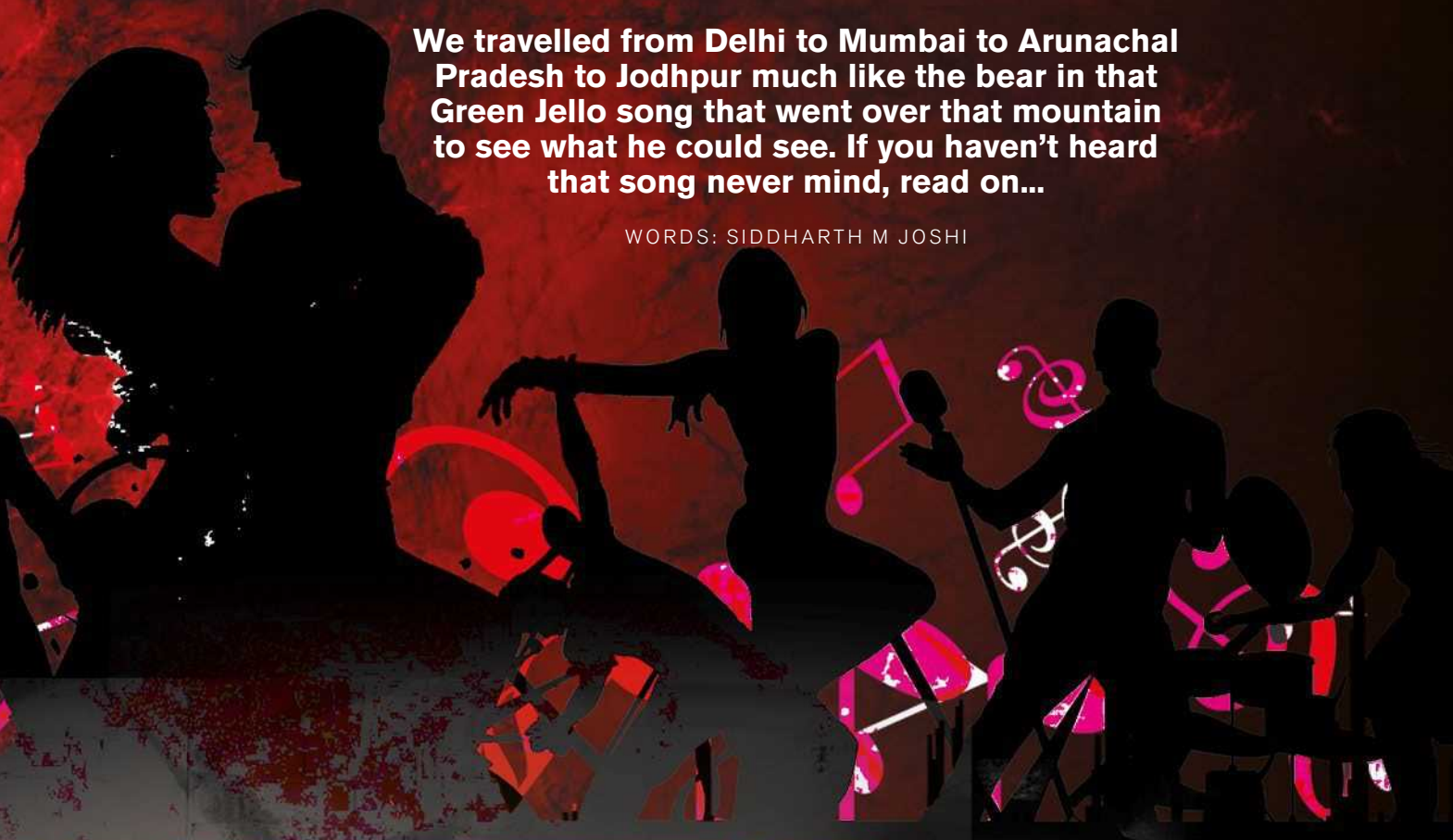


music★special

# IN SEARCH OF MUSIC

We travelled from Delhi to Mumbai to Arunachal Pradesh to Jodhpur much like the bear in that Green Jello song that went over that mountain to see what he could see. If you haven't heard that song never mind, read on...

WORDS: SIDDHARTH M JOSHI



# DISCO DADDY: GIORGIO MORODER

*One of the most influential disco and electronica musicians of all time, Giorgio Moroder, performed at the Johnnie Walker - The Journey Festival 2015. FHM jived, partied and got candid with the legend.*

**FHM: You're a Marco Polo of sorts who inspired the Christopher Columbuses of the world. How does it feel to be a pioneer?**

**Giorgio Moroder:** I certainly love Marco Polo and Columbus. If you can compare me to one of them, I'm absolutely lucky.

**Returning with *Deja Vu* after 30 years was an amazing piece of news for your fans. Did you receive a lot of fan mail?**

Actually you know what – it's all online now, it's all on social media. Earlier people would write, but now it's all on Facebook and Instagram and Twitter. So there's a lot of information coming in now; much more than 20 years ago.

**We can't ignore the prominence, sudden disappearance and a final restoration of the moustache. Is it going to stay for good?**

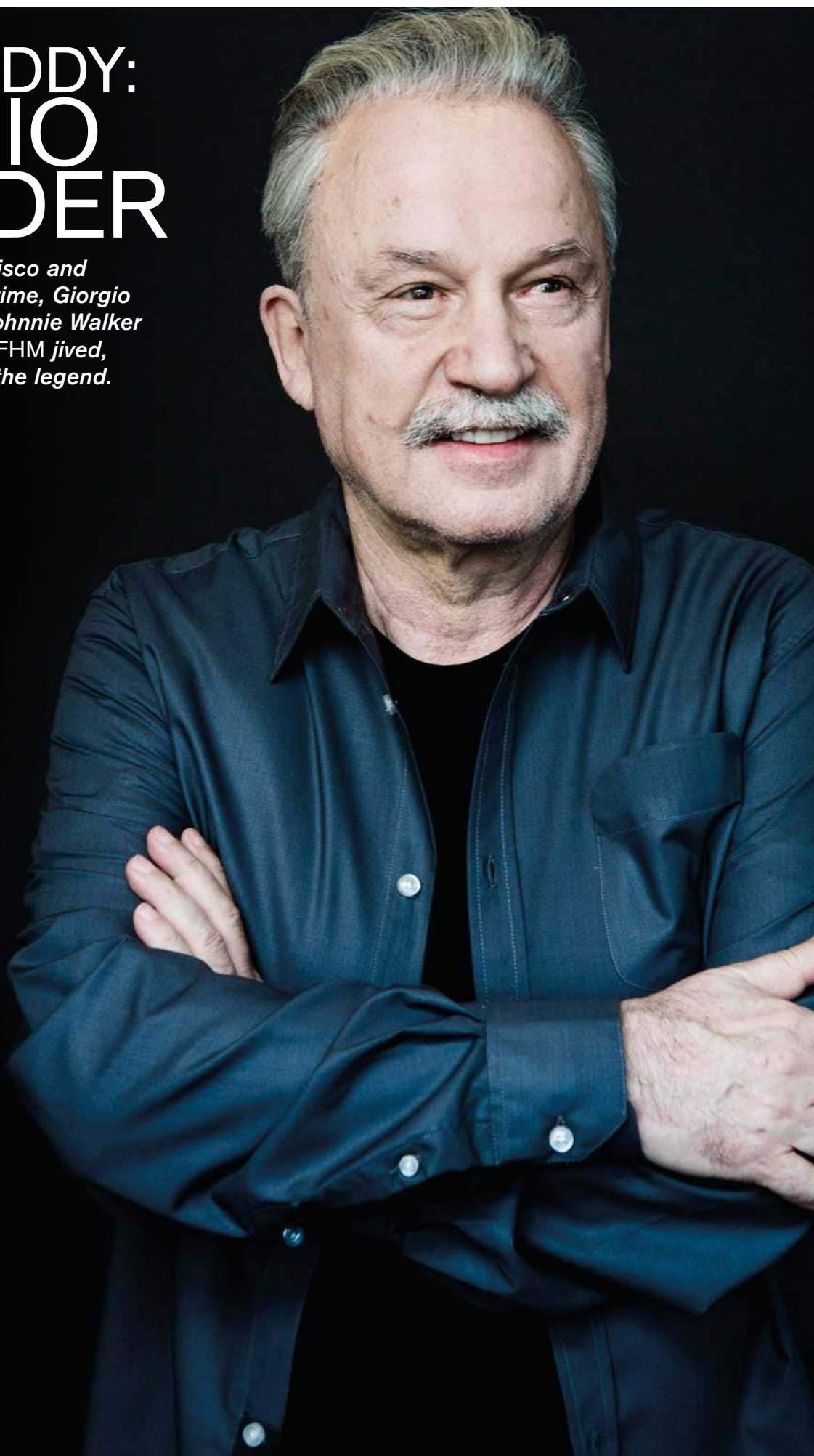
I will continue to write music until the moustache doesn't grow any more. That could be tomorrow or in ten years – I hope it continues to grow as I get older.

**We can all spot pop music when it's playing, but are still confused as to how to define it to may be an alien who doesn't know anything about the music on earth. How would you explain pop music?**

It's the music that you can relax to and don't have to worry about the words, which aren't too complicated. Contrary to rap and heavy metal, pop music has smooth rhythms with good voices. It's enjoyable and you don't have to worry too much about the music.

**You've had a career graph that people can only dream of: Academy Awards, Grammys and what not! How come DJing now? Isn't the trend supposed to be the other way round?**

I got my last Grammy last year, so I just hope to have another. With the



Oscar, I hope to do some great movies soon and maybe another – but it's very difficult. So I'm not anxiously thinking about it. For DJing, it's not like I decided I would do it... Daft Punk and the music industry decided it for me! After having a big song by Moroder it was obvious I would go back to recording. To be honest, I'm happy I did it.

**Back when you started composing, music was not considered to be a very stable career option. How supportive was your family?**

I became a musician who was making money, which is interesting because at least I worked and earned something. A lot of people start with becoming composers and don't make any money as it takes time. So, in the first six-seven years I made some good money making music. Then gradually I began composing, and was lucky to make it good there as well. In the beginning my parents may not have been happy but after a while they were very proud and supporting.

**What was your first synthesizer?**

That's difficult. I think it was a Roland JP 08. The one I used a lot was monophonic.

**You've worked independently, in collaboration with artistes, produced their music and have even composed for films. Which of these roles was the most fun?**

To write for a movie is maybe a little more fun than writing songs, because for the movie you write songs and also the score. That combination is very interesting as you have to base it on the characters of the film and compose a song that fits the movie. It could also potentially be a hit. So it's a big challenge but a very exciting one.

**Love To Love You Baby with Donna Summer was sensational. How was the general reaction towards the overtly sexual undertone that the song carried? Wasn't it partially banned on the radio in England?**

Yeah, the BBC didn't play it for a period of time, which was good because it served as good promotion. But later they had to play it because people were protesting that they couldn't hear the song. That was an interesting period of time.

**Who are your favourites in the music scene now?**

One of the great guys is Max Martin – he's from Sweden. Then there's a new German guy called Zedd who has some great dance songs.

**You've worked with a diverse set of artistes. What has changed between back then and now?**

Well, I would be in the studio with them working on the song and lyrics back then, but now it's a little different – I'm in the studio with the artiste sometimes and sometimes I'm not. There's a new way to record now. People like to work by themselves in their own space. It's less personal unlike how it was 20 years ago.

**Has someone ever commented on your music in front of you when they had no idea who you were?**

No, I've been lucky. It has never happened.

**A plethora of amazing dance numbers to your name must mean that you're a terrific dancer yourself?**

I'm absolutely the worst dancer in the world (laughs). My wife is the best. She's trying to get me to dance a little more. But I'm really tough and I resist.

**If you're feeding your iPod for a long holiday, what are the top five numbers that will definitely be there?**

That's difficult... I like a lot of Michael

Jackson, The Beatles... I don't really have a preference though. I don't have favourites. I just pick up great songs.

**You performed in Mumbai in front of a relatively younger, EDM-loving crowd. What was the set-list like?**

I'm glad I finally made it to India for *Johnnie Walker The Journey*. It was very exciting. I've played some great sets on my travels and couldn't wait to feel the energy India had to offer! It was amazing. I had about 45-50 songs of which about 25 were my older songs, and some which I composed in the last ten years. I also played some from the album *Deja Vu* and some EDM songs by David Guetta and Avicii.

**“ Contrary to rap and heavy metal, pop music has smooth rhythms with good voices. ”**



# THE NEW SLIM SHADY: FAADU

*When he's not protecting your inventions from violation (as a patent analyst), Aditya Parihar a.k.a. Faadu composes gritty, urban rap. FHM caught up with him at the Orange Festival*

**FHM: Why choose the name Faadu for yourself?**

**Faadu:** It describes the level of skill I have when it comes to rap.

**Rapping is more about writing than singing. What do you think about it?**

Writing, as singing rap doesn't require knowledge of notes and all; just the flow is enough. Also, rap stands for rhythm and poetry. You write something and the beats flow to it.

**Who are you inspired by?**

Eminem

**What's your subject?**

I've been writing since 2007 on life, pain and happiness. Basically everything that's happening in your life and mine.

**Any plans to rap professionally?**

I am working with Menwhopause on three-four songs. Also I am working with my friend JayBee (ex 922)... we have pitched couple of songs in Bollywood also. Then I am doing gigs with Menwhopause right now.

**Where all have you performed?**

Ziro, Dambuk, Chandigarh, Delhi.

**Which band is the most fun to collaborate with?**

Menwhopause :D...

**Having travelled so much for your performances, what is your opinion on the youth's taste in music today?**

They love good music... EDM, rock, hip hop, fusion, everything. This generation supports underground artistes and is not resistant to new stuff. Many of them also have knowledge of desi indie music, even more than I do.

**Bollywood is dominating the**

**music scene in India today.**

**There was a time when indie artistes had a very strong presence but now they are limited to music festivals and performances. Do you see this state reversing any time soon?**

I see artistes like YoYo Honey Singh, Badshah, Raftaar and Ikka who started independent and are now dominating Bollywood. So, unlike how it used to be earlier, Bollywood and indie music are not two different entities, they are merging into each other. The indie artistes are making big money in the industry. It also depends on every individual, as Bollywood wants you to do a lot of stupid stuff, but I think paying your bills should be the first priority.

**Who are your personal favourites in music?**

Eminem, Justin Timberlake, DJ Snake, Psy, Honey Singh...

**What does your current playlist look like?**

I listen to Punjabi R&B, English hip hop and Bollywood songs from selected music producers.

**What was your experience in Dambuk like?**

Dambuk was the experience of a life time for me. The venue of the music fest was an orange orchard and we stayed at a camp next to the Dibang River. There was a bar at the artistes' camp and the view of the river was out of the world. Neel (Neel and the Lightbulbs) and my other friends from Kolkata played music around the bonfire all night long. We stood in the river the month of December and smoked... And yes, those hour long ferry rides on the Brahmaputra. I lived a lot in those four days.

**What's the craziest you have done on a festival night?**

No comments...



# ING MUSIC ONLINE: MAATI BAANI

Nirali and Kartik have revolutionised music scene in India with creative forays on the Internet. Their band, Maati Bani was an impressive entrée at the 10th Sacred Spirit Fest

**How do you people come together and form a band. How is Maati Bani different?**

Before we formed Maati Bani, we both had individual careers and were doing well. Nirali was into stani classical and singing for TV ads. We were happy and busy, like there was nothing missing in our lives.

One day, we were out of that chaos that we were living in. Maati Bani, which was our outlet for the time, we would have liked to do whatever we wanted to and upload it on the Internet. It was a simple and straightforward thought. We made a decision of making music and to work with different people, our focus is more on music, rather than a duo band lead for everything.

**How do you collaborate with artists, both from India and abroad and how has it impressed you about the Internet. How is Maati Bani different from other bands?**

We do a song, we really decide the time it will take. Once, when we were in France, we were inspired to do a song track after listening to someone playing an upbeat song with a strong pattern. We didn't finish doing the song while we were there. And when we came back to India, we felt this song should have

musical style and it came up on the Internet. He requested for a saxophone. Similar to that, we contacted musicians to feature in our songs! This is a time when the consumer process is changing the way it works. After a while, we got inputs, which makes it worth the effort. We got a lot of creative input from the music community from different countries and this gradual process became a style. And now, we are about to release a full-length series of songs. A lot of people are across the country through collaborations.

**Who is your favourite for you about Nirali?**  
Nirali is a composer and contributor to music. She complements the music she brings. The music is increasingly patchy and we make it





song, it takes a good amount of time! Like a real pashmina shawl.

**Kartik:** For us the lyrics are important, and we work with writers who are poetic yet simple. In *Rang Rangiya* (our Indo-Pak collaboration for Independence Day) we used Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi to pen the song and it was beautifully done by Subratsinha and Manoj Yadav. Sometimes if the time is right and we are in the mood for it, we write the songs ourselves.

**Very impressive production, Kartik. I was just listening to *Baawariya* and the clarinet being played like a flute was just amazing. Do you brief the artistes on what flavour their instruments should bring to the songs?**

Thanks! Yes, I do. Once I start on a song I know which path to go on to. Sometimes, I write parts for the musicians and sometimes I edit the improvised structures that they've played. However, I follow the adage, 'a song's soul lies in its melody'. And I prefer to keep sing-able solos for instruments that are in the song.

**How independently, really, do the collaborators function?**

**Kartik:** We just give them a path and they are free to improvise on them. In *Balma*, most of the musicians were sent the chord structure and then they played lots of versions of their solos and parts, and we edited them and made one seamless piece out of it. Recently for our new series, we had a clarinet duo from Amsterdam playing for us, and I had to teach them *Raga Sarang* as the song is based on it. They learnt it by heart and then improvised on the song with this new knowledge of the *raga*. It was beautiful!

**There must be a lot of back and forth between you guys and the artistes. How long does a song typically take to be ready to be uploaded?**

**Nirali:** Definitely, there's a lot of back and forth that goes in! But once we have a song in mind and the quality that we aim for, we don't mind giving it the time it demands. If everything is set right, a song takes about a month, but sometimes due to a lot of artistes and availability issues it might take several months.

**Apart from your music, your videos stand out. I personally love the locations you shoot in. Are you also**



**involved in the shots of other artistes, like in *Balma*, or do they shoot themselves and email them to you?**

**Kartik:** Yes! We send them a brief of where they could shoot and some picture references. We also find a videographer in the city where the artiste is. We send him a detailed note on how we want the shoot to be. Also while on shoot, they send us snaps of the place, so we know what's happening. Most of the times it goes right! The whole idea is to get the local flavour of the place where the artiste belongs to.

**Some of your videos remind me of the Pakistani concept of Coke Studio, where artistes are away in separate studios or locations and record their music from there. Did you draw some inspiration from this?**

The big difference between our collaborations and other shows is that we collaborate

remotely using the Internet. Our rehearsals are online and we meet online.

We started working on *Balma* three years ago and took nine months to produce it and at that time we were inspired by *Playing for Change*, which featured musicians jamming outdoors.

**Do new, unheard of artistes ever contact you to collaborate?**

Yes they do. We've had requests from unheard groups in Romania to musicians from Rajasthan.

**How do you pick your artistes?**

It's the most fun and interesting process of our songs. We just go on a rampage on Youtube to find fresh sounds. Once we find something, we make space for it in the song. Some artistes are aware of our requirements... an audio and a video setup. But most of the folk musicians need a video and an audio team arranged as we prefer to film and record at the artiste's location. These teams travel to their



homes for the job. Sometimes it takes us months to convince them, but for us to record artistes who play rare and almost extinct instruments is a priority.

**I think it's pretty brave to have international artistes sing in their language. They definitely bring great vibrations and freshness to the songs. But did you not feel it safer to limit them to instruments?**

Maati Baani was created to collaborate and to explore the fine areas of music, which exist in different parts of the world. When we say music is a universal language, we can't limit ourselves to one area or language. We wanted to break that safety net by creating music that has no rules.

**No matter what the tempo of your songs are, the sound brings an age-old, retro feel of leisurely and unhurried relaxation. You guys are pretty young. Isn't this an anomaly?**

Thanks for the compliment! It's because we create these songs in an unhurried way. We sometimes take a lot of time, waiting for the perfect melody or groove to occur. Also we try to use organic sounds as much as possible. There's a lot of Indian classical and blues music going on in our house. We think the pace the world is moving at, has to slow down. If music can make that happen, we would be more than happy.

**With more and more folk sounds being fused with western styles and instruments, isn't there a threat to their traditional signature? I know this is also documenting ethnic music, but with a slightly new angle.**

We look at it in a different perspective. In fact the more and more it's used the better, because if a person likes the instrument or vocal, he will definitely try to find the source. At least, it's not completely forgotten. On one hand there is a lot of curiosity amongst the younger generation about folk cultures and artistes and on the other hand there is a wealth of artistes who are unheard.

**Tell us something about your new web series. I've heard there are millions of people from as many countries collaborating with you this time. Damn!**

Hahaha! I wish this was true. Anyone in the Milky Way is welcome to collaborate with us (laughs). The upcoming series is a new epitome of collaboration, wherein we have 50 artistes from 20 countries. We discovered these artistes and made the songs online, with almost no travel. It's like a handshake with different cultures that celebrates the oneness in music and humanity in general. Through the series we want to establish that technology and culture can go hand in hand.

**So, how do you translate your style to live performances? Being in different**

**cities how do you practice for them?**

Before the performances we call all the artistes to Mumbai where we are based. We rehearse a lot before any performance. They stay with us rather than putting up in a hotel. Also wherever we are performing, we try to find some local artistes to have that flavour in our songs.

**Tell us something about the changing music scene in India.**

Youtube has opened up a new treasure and it's exploding with new music every day. Also the listeners are looking more towards an 'experience' rather than a one time show. It's an exciting time!

**Who are your personal favourites that you listen to very often these days?**

**Nirali:** Anoushka Shankar, Tunde Jegede, all Indian classical legends.

**Kartik:** Shankar Tucker's album *Filament* is our common favourite.

**Who did you perform with in the World Sacred Spirit Festival? This was your first time there.**

We were really excited to play in a Sufi setup! So for this performance, we had a new setup and a new sound. We had an Iranian oud player and a French saxophonist with folk artistes from Kutchn performing with us. We played some new numbers keeping in mind the beautiful location of the Mehrangarh Fort. It was pretty amazing!



# ON THE BATTER HEAD: TARUN BALANI

*Ace drummer Tarun Balani's vision as a composer draws from a world of influences, finding its expression in the modern jazz idiom. We found the Tarun Balani Collective performing at The Piano Man Jazz Club and sat the man down..*

**FHM: You've carved quite a name for yourself in these few years. *Dharma* is going to be your third album, right? Tell us more about it.**

**Tarun Balani:** Yes, *Dharma* is going to be my third studio album and I've been writing and conceptualising it since the beginning of this year. I've also been studying composition more deeply. I'm really enjoying the process of finding my voice as a composer and a producer. *Dharma* also features a new line up of the collective, featuring Italian trumpeter Tiziano Bianchi, New York bassist Joshua Crumbly, Sharik Hasan on piano and Alex Pinto on guitar. I am very excited to present our new body of work. The album is set to release in early 2016.

**In your head, who's your audience? Describe a typical audience that listens to your kinda music.**

That's a tough one. I don't have a fixed audience in my mind. I hope that I'm able to reach out to and connect with as many listeners as possible and that they are able to find meaning and a connection with my music.

**What are the kind of pressures that a jazz band has to face in an Indian market, where such music is still very niche?**

I honestly feel very lucky to be in India at this time of my career and to be playing improvised music. I feel the audience here is very receptive to all styles of music. However, I do feel that this categorisation of jazz as 'niche' and exclusive is what is the biggest challenge.

**People often mistake jazz to be a genre in itself, while in reality it's an umbrella for several sub-genres like blues, Chicago jazz, swing music,**

**fusion, etc. Where do you place your music?**

For me I just view my music as an extension of myself, my experiences and my beliefs. I try not to judge it and put a label on it.

**Tell us something about your initiation into jazz music. Who were you inspired by?**

I was 18 years old when I had the opportunity to study at the Drummer's Collective in New York City. Apart from my studies, I spent a lot of time watching concerts and hanging out at jazz clubs. I remember watching the legendary drummer Roy Haynes leading his quartet at *The Village Vanguard*... that's when I knew I wanted to play, pursue and study jazz music.

**You've played in several bands before starting the Tarun Balani Collective. Was it for absolute creative freedom that you left them or did you finally meet the people cut out for your style?**

Yes, I've been very lucky to have played with several artistes and groups and I still continue to work as a sideman; but leading my own group and composing excites me the most. Currently, I'm also working with a collaborative project featuring Chayan Adhikari and Vasundhara Vee. I am really enjoying the collective writing process in this new group, The Next Collective.

**Usually a typical jazz composition showcases a lot of changes in tempo and mood. How difficult or easy is it to compose?**

For me composition is a very organic process. It is improvisation but in slow motion. I often compose very intuitively and only later on, once I have a strong idea, do I start thinking about the shape, form and structure of the piece.

**Jazz is also notoriously popular for longish compositions. In a well structured composition strictly out of sheets, how much is the scope to improvise for you guys?**

Well it really depends on the context and the composition. It is hard to make a general statement on this.

**In most jazz performances, we've seen a certain competitive spirit when artistes play solo while improvising and the rest**

**of the band plays in support while waiting for them to fall back to the original line of composition. Do you go on such solo sprees?**

I view my compositions as songs, and any improvisational element is also a part of the composition. A lot of the times, soloing is considered the most highlighted element in a performance, however, in my music I also like to draw the attention of the listener to the melody of piece and use the solo sections to enhance the song or the piece.

**Your music is not strictly traditional American jazz – elements from India make their way in a lot. Is that an intentional signature?**

Well, I am Indian and I grew up in New Delhi. Listening to Indian music and studying it has influenced my compositions and playing. I'm glad it reflects in my music but it is certainly not something planned or pre-determined. I incorporate Indian elements in my compositions if and when it feels natural.

**We've seen the *sarangi* being played in one of your compositions. Have you experimented with any more Indian or South Asian instruments?**

I've worked with a few Indian classical vocalists... an oud player as well as fretless guitar.

**How well does the international jazz community take such introduction of ethnic sounds into jazz?**

To be honest, I've been lucky and my music has been well received by international audiences. I personally feel they really appreciate and enjoy hearing traditional elements in the music.

**The other day I was listening to *Malala's Dream* and I quite liked it. It's mellow but still has an uplifting mood. Tell us more about it.**

I wrote *Malala's Dream* as a theme song for Malala Yousafzai. I was deeply affected by the assassination attempt and I wanted to write a piece that would be an anthem in support of her spirit and the work she's doing.

**Indian Ocean had certain qualities of jazz initially, though they've changed their sound now. Do you think there's a possibility of collaboration with them?**

I would love to collaborate with Indian Ocean!

**You've studied music in quite a prestigious college. What exactly do they teach you there?**

Music school or college is just like any other school and college where they teach you and help you prepare for a career in music and as an artiste. Being at Berklee College of Music was a pivotal point in my musical development and I am truly grateful to all my teachers for sharing their valuable time and experience with me.

**Ever had to face a teacher like Terence Fletcher (*Whiplash*) in the music school?**

No. I did have a very strict jazz ensemble teacher but he was also very encouraging and supportive.

**What do you think about that particular character anyway?**

I feel the movie was quite far from reality and exaggerated. Music school is most certainly not like that, and I am yet to meet a music teacher with that temperament.

**What's on your current playlist?**

Currently, I am listening to a lot of Debussy, Ravel and Erik Satie these days...



## YESTERDRIVE LIVE PERFORMANCES

- Ziro Music Festival  
**(2013)**
- Live From The Console,  
**Mehboob Studio (2014)**
- Hornbill Festival as  
competitor in 2013, and  
**as guest band in 2014.**
- Someplace Else,  
**The Park, Kolkata (2015)**
- Arunachal Spring Carnival,  
**Pasighat (2015)**
- Hard Rock Café  
**(Gurgaon) (2015)**
- Hard Rock Café  
**(Delhi) (2015)**
- Northeast Festival,  
**Delhi (2014) (2015)**
- Summerhouse Café,  
**Hauz Khas (2015)**
- Jamsteady's Big Sunday,  
**Kolkata (2015)**
- Orange Festival,  
**Dambuk (2015)**
- Metropolis,  
**Guwahati (2016)**

# THE NEW RETRO: YESTERDRIVE

*Yesterdrive, easily one of the most energetic bands from India's Northeast, performed with an old age charm at the Orange Music Festival in Dambuk. We shared some of their happy space.*

**FHM: So, you were the first Indian band to be featured in *Around the World in 80 Music Videos*. Tell us more about it.**

**Yesterdrive:** Well, that was one of the most interesting videos we ever shot for ourselves too! Diana Boccara and Leo Longo are a couple from Brazil who had this amazing concept of travelling around the world shooting music videos with literally zero budget! They happened to look up Indian bands and stuff like that when they were already in Russia. It was right after Ziro Festival of Music in 2015 while we were heading back to Delhi that we received their mail. We said YES right away. We are grateful to them to consider us as the first Indian band for their Indian tour alongside two other great bands from our country, Advaita and Skrat.

**I loved *Dread* when I heard it live last month. It's got great bounce and energy with the perfect vocals. And then I watched its video, which seems to have been shot in one go. Tell us more about that video.**

Thank you so much! The song is one of our personal bests too, as a band. It's fun to perform it all the time. The video was shot in Summerhouse Café in Hauz Khas. Diana and Leo had the idea of a person who dances the quirkiest and in the most weird way when he hears our music and it's a way of him letting go of his fear and just be himself, having fun in an empty bar!

**You're a band essentially from Arunachal. Where do you guys live and jam in Delhi?**

Though we represent Arunachal Pradesh, our drummer, Ritesh, is from Darjeeling and the synth /maschine player, Kabir, is from Tripura. We reside in the Northeast hub of Delhi, Safdarjung Enclave and jam at the Retro Records & Studio in Defence Colony. We've recorded almost all our songs there.

**What's the story of your band? How did it all start?**

It started off as Molee's (vocalist) solo project. He started working with Haggai (guitarist) on recording and producing the EP *Hold On*. Then he called in his childhood friend, Liem (bassist). Sachin played the drums and soon we roped in Kabir for synths. Our most recent member is Ritesh.

**Familiarise us with the instruments you use.**

Molee uses a Fender Jaguar with his analogue pedals. Haggai uses an American Fender Stratocaster with his analogue pedals. Liem uses a Fender Squier Bass. Kabir uses Native Instrument's Maschine and Novation's Mininova.

**Do you guys feel like rockstars yet?**

Well, if being broke due to jamming and having some pending bills to the landlord and still managing to act qualifies as the definition, then hell yeah, we feel like rockstars!

**Even though it's closer to pop and rock, I find the band's sound quite country-like in its energy and execution. What do you think?**

We are an indie band so yes our sounds can be described by

each and every listener differently. We leave it to you guys to decide what we are...

**Molee's voice has a boyish charm that's perfect to impress girls with. What has the experience been in that area?**

Haha! It was never the intention to impress girls with the voice. Molee does get complimented a lot for his voice and that's it.

**Do you produce your own compositions?**

Yes. Till date, all of our songs have been composed by us.

**Do you think if indie-rock acts began using Hindi lyrics they would have more scope to be popular? Because let's face it, very few people actually go for non commercial music...**

To be honest, music was never about any particular language. An indie rock band singing in Hindi would struggle the same as us if they don't want to go for commercial music. Otherwise, if earning quick money is the main motive, they can always sing in Bollywood movies, writing for some directors.

**What do you think about the different rock competitions that keep happening in our country? Do they really help catapult good bands?**

We haven't been into any competition (offline) other than Hornbill (2013). Competitions don't necessarily catapult good bands but they do give an on-stage experience to amateurs and also the experience in music in general.

**What is the most exotic festival location that music has taken you to?**

Well Dambuk and Ziro will have to be the most exotic locations that we have gone to so far.

**Was this your first time at Dambuk? Care to share any crazy stories from there?**

Dambuk was fun, minus the sad news that our drummer, Ritesh was diagnosed with chicken pox right before our show. Luckily, our good friend, Sambit from The Ganesh Talkies agreed to handle the drums for our set. He had to learn some of our songs in an hour and we went on stage and performed five songs with him. We'll never forget that gesture.

**What's your favourite track from your own kitty?**

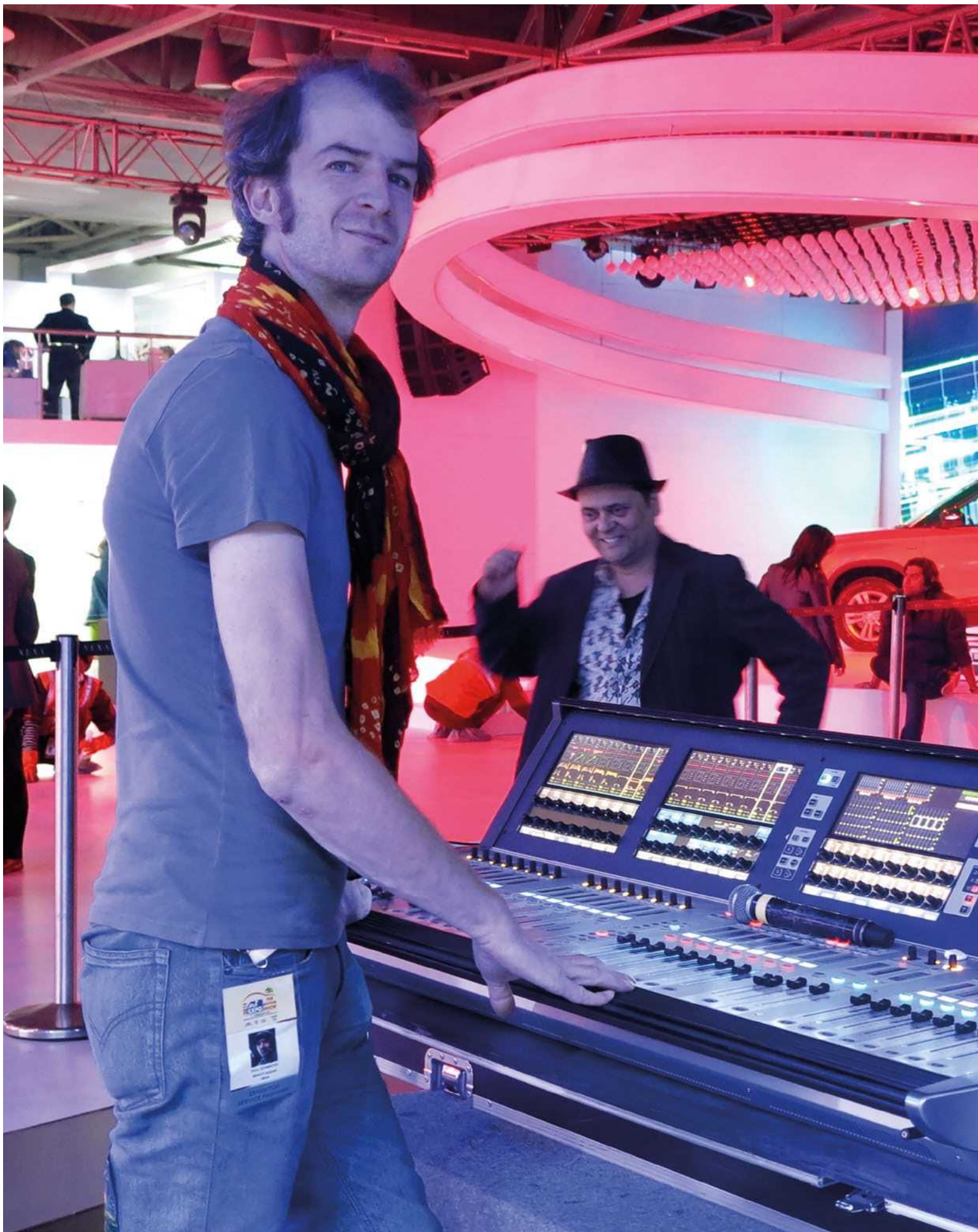
Our personal favourite is *Dread* and also our two new unreleased singles, *Okay Hope* and *Down by the River*.

**What does your current iPod playlist look like?**

Well, we all have different playlists so if we all start here it will never end! Haha... almost all kinds of genres.

**What's your understanding of India's music scene?**

The music scene is definitely changing in India. We do see a lot of live venues opening up and giving opportunities to artistes. The independent scene is growing rapidly and we can all expect better things in future.





# MANOEUVRING MUSIC: PAUL SCHNEITER

**Sound engineering is one of the most important aspects of making and producing music. FHM got to the bottom of it with the man from Paris himself at the Orange Music Festival.**

**FHM: Hi Paul, it was great to meet you at Dambuk. How is it going?**

**Paul:** It's going great, thanks! I've been on a roll since we met in Dambuk. I ended up touring the Northeast with Tritha Electric for more than a month, staying several weeks in traditional bamboo houses. Most recently I played the laser harp at the Auto Expo in Noida. I think it was the first time the instrument was played in India!

**You were the man behind the beautiful soundboard who always had a place to sit no matter how crowded it got. What do you exactly do with all those buttons and nozzles?**

Hahaha! That's right, the mixing engineer always gets the best seat in the house! Basically the mixing console is the centrepiece of a live concert; each instrument arrives at the console

from the stage on a separate channel where I can alter its volume and sound characteristics by applying equalisation and compression. Or I can also add effects like reverb, chorus or delay. All channels are then blended together inside the master buss before coming out of the speakers and going into the audience's ears. Unfortunately, I am not only mixing for the crowd (that would be too easy!!), I also have to give a separate mix to each musician on stage, called monitor mixes. For instance, the drummer will not want to hear the drums in his mix because he is already hearing them naturally, or the singer will need the vocals very high up to have a good reference of what he or she is singing. Doing all this simultaneously can be very tricky at times, and it is a challenge to make everyone happy.

**How did it all start?**

You mean my career in sound in India? Well, I first came to the country on an MBA

exchange programme in 2007, then one day I noticed a stage being set-up on the campus and went to have a look. Next thing I knew I was behind the console and Indian Ocean was performing on stage! I, then, moved to Delhi for good in 2009 and immediately started touring with the likes of Menwhopause and Advaita. That's also when I began working at the legendary Katharas Recording Studios in New Delhi, which I am now also managing.

**Have you worked or interned with legends that you always admired?**

To some extent I did, but not as much as I would have liked to. The legends (at least my legends) of sound engineering are mostly from the US or the UK and I never spent much time there. In Paris, I had the chance to sit on a couple of sessions with Florian Lagatta, one of the engineers behind the sound of Daft Punk's *Random Access*



Memory. I learned a few cool tricks from him.

**What is the mechanism of sound engineering? If you had to explain it to an ordinary person.**

Well, sound engineering is pretty much like cooking. You are given several ingredients and you have to cook the best possible meal with them. In this case, the ingredients are the different sounds coming from the stage and the meal is the final mix. Adding masala (i.e. effects like reverb and delay) is also needed, but just like *masala* if you put too much it won't taste/sound good... On top of that, you also have to make sure that the kitchen is clean and works well, which translates as making sure that all the cables and speakers are in good condition and connected together in the best possible way.

**What are the instruments that you use during live gigs and recordings?**

Live equipment is very different from recording gear. The former needs to be sturdy while the latter is designed to give the best possible sound and can be quite fragile.

**What are the softwares that are commonly used in either set-up?**

ProTools is still, for me, the standard for studio recordings. When it comes to live sound, all the modern boards have their own software and sometimes it's tedious, constantly working with different interfaces.

**Your job looks a lot more technical than just playing or making music. How closely do producers and sound engineers work with the artistes? And who gets to have the final say, in case of a stalemate on grounds of creativity?**

In the studio, I generally handle both the sound engineer's and the producer's duties. The producer is the most important person in the studio as he or she decides the way an album feels and sounds. The producer has to work very closely with the artiste, and at times there are difficult moments in order to achieve the best results. Artistes are so deeply involved in the music that they sometimes lose perspective. So, the job of the producer is to bring some objectivity into the recordings. I try to keep a fan's approach to the music, and am constantly asking myself in the studio whether a fan of the band would like what we are doing.

**Do you also do some production?**

I do production in the 'vintage' meaning of the word. I am not making instrumental tracks on Logic or Ableton Live. For me, production in the recording studio means guiding the artistes, helping them go where they want to go in terms of sound and energy. That means choosing the right microphones and preamps, telling the musicians how to play and what to pay attention to.

**We know you've been around in India for quite some time now, learning the *kartal*. Tell us more about it.**

Living in Delhi, I quickly made my way to Rajasthan and was lucky enough to meet Kutla Khan and his group of musicians in Jaisalmer. I



Pic Courtesy: Vijay Kate

was mesmerised by the *kartals* that they play, and immediately wanted to learn. Kutla's younger brother Gafoor has been teaching me.

**Artistes have specific genres that they play in. They may not sound as good if they switched to an alien category. Does something similar also happen with sound engineers?**

Mmmmm... I think good musicians and good engineers are able to work well in any genre. I can work with a rock band today, then an Indian classical artiste tomorrow. In fact, I really enjoy the change; I think I would get bored listening to the same music all the time... and it's mostly a matter of taste. A good engineer used to rock music only would be able to mix a jazz gig, technically speaking, but as his taste in jazz might not be so good, the final mix might not be what's required. For me, I think I do a better job if I like the band I am mixing. It is obviously more difficult to make a good mix if I don't really like the music I am mixing!

**What is your kind of music?**

My kind of music is music that makes me feel something, music that evokes emotions. Different genres are like different languages, and once you speak the language, one is able to like or not a particular record or artiste. My background is rock... I grew up listening to The Beatles, and then moved on to Nirvana, Pixies, etc... The first time I heard jazz, it was a Miles Davis psychedelic record, *Bitches Brew*, I think.

And I just didn't get it! It took me several listens to start understanding what was going on, and now I love it. This, by the way, doesn't mean I love all jazz, just that now I can understand what goes on in jazz music.

**Do you also play an instrument other than the *kartal*?**

I play the drums live, now mostly with *Tritha Electric*, the band I started here in India. In the studio, I can play a variety of things, be it percussions, guitars, keys, or just weird noises and effects with the analogue outboard lying in the studio. My favourite right now is the Ibanez AD-202 which I am using a lot on the upcoming *Ska Vengers* album. It is a very old and noisy unit, and it has so much character and bite in it that I just love using it!

**What are the Indian bands that you help during their live gigs?**

Recently I've done live and studio work with the likes of *Menwhopause*, *The Vinyl Records*, *The Ska Vengers*, *Suman Sridhar* and *Tritha Electric*, to name but a few. I've also been engineering some more classical festivals which gave me the chance to work with *Pandit Vishwa Mohan*, *Vidya Shah*, *Muktia Ali* and *Kutle Khan*.

**What is your favourite music festival?**

There are so many fantastic music festivals on the planet! Looking at India, I feel the best festivals are the ones happening in remote

natural beauty. *Ziro* and *Dambuk Festivals* in *Arunachal Pradesh*, as well as the *Ragasthan* festival in the sand dunes of *Jaisalmer* are amongst my favourites. *Magnetic Fields* in *Alsisar* is also one that I don't like to miss. I also recently started working with the *Kaloobang Festival* in *Reunion*, a beautiful and isolated volcanic island in the Indian Ocean.

**How was Dambuk? Any crazy story from there?**

*Dambuk* is always crazy, and I don't remember anything. Hahaha...

**What's your understanding of the changing music scene in India?**

When I came to India, 'the scene' in the country was starting to grow. In Delhi, it was at *TLR*, the first bar in *Hauz Khas Village* which had a music stage. There I saw the likes of the *Reggae Rajahs*, *The Ska Vengers*, *Dualist Inquiry*, and so many other top artistes of today begin. But it's EDM that has taken over the clubs in most cities, so live bands playing original material are struggling once more. To take my band as an example, *Tritha Electric*, in 2015, performed 12 times in India and 26 times abroad. Though the Indian audience loves the sound of the band and go crazy every time we perform, promoters are hard to convince to book what they perceive as a very niche band (*Tritha Electric play psychedelic rock in regional Indian languages*). **FHM**



Pic Courtesy:  
Anirban Mandal



# WHEN THE BIG BOYS ROLL...

**BRASH, BRAWNY, BRUTES... THAT'S WHAT THE SUVS OUT THERE CLAIM TO BE. BUT IN OUR MINDS, IT'S ONLY AN ELITE LIST OF SUPER PICK-UPS THAT CAN STAKE A CLAIM TO THESE ADJECTIVES. HERE'S A LIST OF SOME OF THE MEANEST PICK-UP TRUCKS THAT WE DESPERATELY NEED IN INDIA.**

**With a body built out of military grade aluminum alloy, the all-new Raptor is 250 kilos lighter than its earlier versions.**





The on board Uconnect system acts as an office and entertainment centre.

## RAM 1500 REBEL



This is a truck where the name says it all. Throw any terrain at the 1500 Rebel and it promises to be on the other side without breaking a sweat. The Rebel boasts a one-of-its-kind design, unique to the full-size truck segment, with an off-road-style package. It drops right into the core segment of the truck market with unique design cues and mechanical innovations. It features an all-new grille with a prominent billet silver "RAM" badge. Departing from the brand's iconic "crosshair" designs, the blacked-out Rebel grille tops a completely new black off-road front bumper design with a durable powder-coated surface. In its Sport trim, the truck comes with a 395 hp HEMI V8 engine, eight-speed TorqueFlite transmission, 3.92 gear set, dual exhaust, vented sport hood and 20-inch wheels.

# TOYOTA TACOMA

If there is any manufacturer that has bared its soul to every off-road site in the US, it has to be Toyota. The Tacoma carries forward a legacy of off-road victories and over seven million compact and mid-size Toyota trucks sold since 1964. This tough truck has been designed, developed and built for those who hate taking the easy road. For added performance, the Tacoma offers an all-new 3.5-litre V6 engine, equipped with Toyota's D-4S technology, featuring both direct and port fuel injection. The new V6 will generate 278 hp, an increase of 42 hp over the previous V6, and 265 lb.-ft. of torque at 4,600 rpm.



A smart key fob in your pocket unlocks the door effortlessly.





➔  
The F-150 Raptor features Ford's first 10-speed automatic gearbox.



## FORD F-150 RAPTOR

➔  
With the moniker and the authoritative stance it comes with, an adjective is the last thing the F-150 needs. Featured here, the 2017 model is a high-performance pickup truck that is the toughest and most capable Raptor from Ford's stable. Powered by the second-generation, high-output 3.5-litre EcoBoost engine, it produces more power with greater efficiency than the current 6.2-litre V8, which is rated at 411 hp and 434 lb.-ft. of torque.



⬆  
The first true high-performance off-road pickup with a factory warranty.





## GMC CANYON DENALI



For those who haven't heard of this brand, GMC is the division of General Motors that stays away from the usual four-wheelers and focusses on the big-bad world of hauler trucks. The Canyon Denali is one of those pickups that doesn't need to growl to make its presence felt. In true Denali form, this premium 'mid-sized' truck turns heads and catches eyes with a blend of bold forms and bright accents. A Denali-exclusive chrome grille highlights the fascia, while standard chrome assist steps, a polished exhaust tip and distinctive 20-inch, ultra-bright machined aluminum wheels further accentuate the exterior. This pickup offers a 305 hp, 3.6-litre V6 engine which provides a maximum trailer tow rating of up to 3,175 kg in two-wheel drive form. **FHM**



Premium leather seats and a heated steering wheel are standard.





# ALCOHOL

YES, WE LIKE TO DRINK. BUT FOR THOSE WITH A REFINED SENSE OF AESTHETICS, IT'S MORE THAN JUST THE BOOZE. FROM CRYSTAL TO STUFFED, FURRY ANIMALS, THESE SPIRITS WILL STAY WITH YOU.

WORDS: COLIN FERNANDES

## 01 1800 TEQUILA (Essential Artists)

Who doesn't like shots? 1800 Tequila's Essential Artists range of limited-edition collectible bottles feature renowned artists such as Jean-Michel Basquiat, Keith Haring and Gary Baseman. Makes for great vases too!



## 02 THE MACALLAN (in Lalique)

We thought 'grenade' too when we first saw this uniquely stoppered bottle. What you get in this decanter designed by Lalique (makers of fine crystal jewelry) is one of the finest single malt whiskys known to man.



## 03 HIJOS DE VILLA (Pistol Reposado Tequila)

We think this is a wonderfully poignant way to down shots. Filled with 200ml of exquisite Reposado tequila, the set includes two shot glasses. When you're done drinking, you can always use it to water the bonsai.

## 04 THE END OF HISTORY (Brew Dog)

Back in 2010, this was one of the most expensive (and potent at 55%) freeze-distilled beers ever produced. Only 12 bottles were made priced between £500 and £700. Presumably the manufacturers could catch just that many squirrels.



## 05 *BLANTON'S* (Single-Barrel Bourbon)

Sure, Blanton's is a pretty fantastic bourbon, but what makes it just that bit better is the stopper.

Since 1999 a collector's edition set of eight different stoppers was produced, each marked with a single letter that spells Blanton's when you collect the entire set.





## 06 MAMONT (Vodka)

You could call it fate or serendipity when a baby mammoth was found frozen near the Mamont distillery. Inspired by a tusk, this Siberian vodka is well known for its smoothness and hints of cedar nuts.

## 07 MACALLAN 64 YEAR OLD (in Lalique)

There's a story behind this delicate bottle. Created to mark the 150th birth anniversary of René Lalique, this is probably the most expensive 1.5 litres whisky bottle in the world going for \$4,60,000 at a Sotheby's auction. Proceeds went to water related charities to help people in developing countries. Send them the whisky we say!



## U.LUVKA (Vodka)

blower  
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with love  
huh.  
e.



## 09 CAMUS (Cuvée 5)

To celebrate the 150th year of the House of Camus, Cyril Camus, the fifth president in the family released this intricately designed carafe set. The stopper is a single block of solid black crystal and the whole shebang is presented in a black lacquered case. Launched under the Masterpiece Collection series, the cognac itself is a blend of five exceptional eaux-de-vie representing the five heads of House Camus.

## 10 PUMPKIN FACE (Dominican Rum)

Inspired by a colonist tradition of filling hollowed pumpkins with cream, honey, eggs and spices and then cooking the lot in hot ashes, Halloween is the most opportune time to open a bottle of this quite excellent rum. Available in Cream, White, Reserve and Aged varieties.



## 11 *SEXY TINA* (Milky Vodka)

Yes. It's a boob. Although, we're not quite sure what Tina would make of it. Probably would not ask for a 'buy one, get one' scheme. Designed by Russian artist Pavel Gubin in 2009, the contents are not really vodka at all but Irish cream.



## 12 *DQ VODKA*

This luxe Swedish vodka is going to be launched in selected countries in March and going by the space-age design of the bottle, we have a feeling getting high on this moonshine is going to be on another level. Meanwhile, DQ's signing up distributors. Hint, hint.



## 13 *LOUIS XIII* (Cognac)

Remy Martin are bywords in the connoisseur cognac club and the Louis XIII has been a hallmark of art-de-vivre since 1874. The limited edition Louis XIII Black Pearl comes in numbered Baccarat dark crystal decanters (there are 786) and was released to mark the 140th anniversary of Louis XIII. **FHM**

upgrade

# OBJECT of desire

US based William Henry has been producing hand-engraved, jewelled pocket knives since 1997. Great way to carve your initials onto a monument.

**HEIRLOOM**  
MADE FROM  
METAL, CARVED SILVER  
& HAND-BURNISHED  
GOLD.



## Cut to the QUICK

A hallmark of the productoin quality is a seamless integration of natural materials, precious metals and gemstones as well as the use of state-of-the-art alloys. The unique character of the artistry and the nature of the materials make every creation truly one of a kind...no two pieces are identical.

# BLING BLING ALERT

Sharp knives are not the only shiny things available at this luxury jewellers. Their current collection includes pens, money clips, cuff links, key chains, bracelets, necklaces and more. Founded by designer Matt Conable, WH has retained the aura of an artisan workshop, where every piece is created in limited, often unique, editions.





# TIME TO FLY YOUR OWN U.F.O.

Unmanned Flying Objects have gotten more sophisticated than just R/C planes. Some of the better civilian drones out there.



## DJI Phantom 3 Professional

With a totally customisable remote that boasts easy intuitive controls and an integrated DJI Lightbridge, the Phantom 3 comes with a 4K video camera, 12 MP photo capabilities and a 3-axis stabilisation gimbal. There's also a live HD view, a hassle-free auto pilot and a built-in flight simulator for practice.



## PARROT BEBOP

A featherweight (400gm) ABS reinforced chassis ensures safety and robustness with the propellers stopping automatically in the event of a collision. In an emergency, it allows the drone to land immediately while a ReturnHome function directs the Bebop back to its take-off point. The Bebop's navigation computer features a Parrot P7 dual-core CPU, quad-core GPU and 8 GB of flash memory.

## MILITARY ATTACK DRONES

Some of the UAVs that dominate combat situations globally.



Never get on the wrong side of a General Atomic Predator B.



The IAI Harop serves the Israeli army in its 'war' in Gaza.



Northrop Grumman's Global Hawk is your auntie's drone...



...but their X-47B is a peek at what is coming in the 2020s.



The IAI Heron, made by Israel, used by the world.

## YUNEEC Q500 4K TYPHOON

The Typhoon is the drone you want when you are filming long shots in ultra HD. The onboard camera brings you high-quality images with slow motion capture ability (1080 P / 120 FPS) and 12MP photos that show incredible detail and unparalleled realism.



# Run Pappu Run!

Running is the most natural activity for the entire animal kingdom. But while the rest of them do it for survival, humans do it to stay fit. We ask Daniel Vaz, head coach, Nike + Run Club, everything that you need to know about running.

## 01 IS IT OKAY FOR A NEWBIE TO RUN EVERY DAY?

It is recommended that one not run every day. Take at least one-two days off as it helps in reducing the frequency of overuse injuries. By taking adequate rest, you give your body a chance to recover and repair itself. Additionally, the individual would feel better and stronger during their run. Taking a break also helps the individual relax mentally and physically. Beginners should run on alternate days and average running three to four times a week.

## 02 HOW MUCH SHOULD ONE RUN TO START WITH?

A beginner can start by running two to four times a week for about 20 to 30 minutes per run. It's best to start slow and go easy on the

run. Starting off with a jog is what is generally recommended. Gradually, in order to avoid injuries, individuals can increase their run time over the weeks. However if the individual is a true beginner and can't run even for ten minutes then it is best to start off with a walk/run plan.

## 03 DO WE NEED TO HAVE A CERTAIN BODY TYPE TO RUN?

All body types can take up running. However, if your body mass index is over 25 then you need to be extra careful by using proper cushioning for your shoes and avoid concrete surfaces for running.

## 04 WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RUNNING ON A TREADMILL AND RUNNING OUTDOORS?

A treadmill requires less effort

when running at the same speed as doing it outside. This is because the belt moves below your feet and reduces the effort in your stride. Periodically running outdoors is essential if you are going to take part in races because the road makes your calves and ankles work harder. The advantage of a treadmill though, is that you get to control various speeds and inclinations thus allowing you to challenge your workout in a closed setting. Also, on days when the weather outside is not conducive to running (rain, extreme cold, too warm, etc), you can do your workout comfortably on a treadmill.

## 05 HOW DOES RUNNING HELP BUILDING OF MUSCLES?

Yes, it is possible to build your leg muscles by running. However, running alone won't help you build overall musculature. Finding a balance between running, weight training and nutrition is the key to build muscles and the right balance is also dependent on one's specific goals.

## 06 IS IT OKAY TO RUN BAREFOOT?

In order to run barefoot it is better to first make a transition by using 'minimalistic shoes'. Also, if your body mass index is higher than 25 then barefoot or even minimalistic shoe running is not advisable due to higher load on the knees and hips.

## 07 A LOT OF PEOPLE PREFER JOGGING OVER RUNNING. WHAT IS YOUR TAKE ON IT?

There is no difference between jogging and running and it is just terminology used to classify the everyday runner who runs purely to keep fit. As Dr George Sheehan says, "The difference between a jogger and a runner is a race bib."

## 08 THERE IS A COMMON BELIEF THAT RUNNING IS BAD FOR YOUR KNEES. IS IT TRUE?

Most common running injuries generally hit the knees, however this isn't solely because of running. In fact running helps in strengthening the knee, as it thickens the cartilage in the knees. As you start running, your body gradually adapts to it and since running doesn't involve bending the knee too much, twisting or turning, it is a safe form of exercise for the knee.

One of the ways to reduce the chance of a knee injury, while running, is to strength train and change your shoes periodically.

## 09 WHAT ARE THE NUTRITION REQUIREMENTS FOR A RUNNER?

There are no specific nutritional requirements for a recreational runner doing up to 21K races, except that your carbohydrate intake after every run should be adequate to fuel your body for the loss of glycogen. However, for runners doing a full or ultra marathon the carbohydrate requirement can be in the region of 10-14 gms/kg of body weight. In addition, your protein intake should generally be 1.2-1.4 gms/kg of body weight.

## 10 IS IT OKAY TO EAT BEFORE RUNNING?

Eating just before the run is generally not advised as it leads to cramps or side stitches. However, running on empty stomach is also not advisable as it can leave the individual fatigued. Having a light meal, which is high on carbohydrates and low on fats, an hour before the run is ideal. The idea is to make sure that blood glucose levels are stable while running."

## 11 RUNNING LOOKS PRETTY EASY. HOW IMPORTANT IS IT TO HAVE A RUNNING COACH?

The need for a coach is absolutely essential if one is training for races that have distances equal to or more than a half marathon. This is because the running mileage, if not tailored to suit the individual, can lead to over-training and/or injuries. Also, the progressions of running distance and speed can only be recommended if you have a coach. It is seldom possible to take a training schedule off the Internet and hope that it fits.

## 12 WHAT IS THE BEST TIME TO GO FOR A RUN?

There is no best time for a run, as such. It is based on individual time constraints and preferences. However, doing your training first thing in the morning allows you to finish it and get on with the rest of the day without any pressure.

## 13 WHAT KIND OF SHOES DO YOU SUGGEST FOR NEW RUNNERS OR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO RUN ON A DAILY BASIS?

The kind of shoe an individual opts for, again, may vary from person to person. There are several parameters based on which, one can decide what kind of shoe would suit them the best. Body frame, amount of cushioning required and the way your foot pronates (how your foot reacts to pressure) are few crucial factors to be considered before deciding on the right shoe. Running biomechanics is a crucial parameter to be considered when opting for the right kind of shoe.

# **FHM** *Girlfriend* **WITH** **SIDNEY SEBOLD**

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Well, for you, receiving fellatio is the most amazing experience. But what about your girl? Not always the same. Follow these and rock her world to a point of no return... »

01

## What's the normal comfort zone for a girl?

I think everyone has a different comfort zone and it's best to communicate with your partner in order to stay within that zone. Some girls might be willing to try out new things, while others might want to stick to the basics.

02

## What's the perfect position for an amazing oral?

I think it goes back to the girl's comfort level. If she's more submissive, she might like being on her knees with the guy standing. If she's dominant she might want the guy laying down and her on top of him.





## Sidney's life this month



#mondaze



Repping CLE!  
#goldengatebridge #sanfrancisco



Adventures in Sin City with  
@danielladior



Taped up at AVN with Black Tape  
Project. Feeling excited.



03

**How good is a vibrator during the process?**

Toys are great in the bedroom, but I think one should be focused on one thing at one point of time.

04

**Doggy or queening? Which one's more stimulating?**

It would be a personal choice. Just like, 'Do you want to look at your partner when you're having sex with them?' 'Do you like rough sex or not?' These have to go into consideration when choosing sexual positions. Every position has a place in time – and you have to choose the right time.

05

**Is taking turns always a good idea?**

Yes! Taking turns is the best idea! Gotta give a little to get a little, right?

06

**How creative can a tongue get to give maximum pleasure?**

As creative as you want it to get. There are many endless possibilities.

07

**Does communicating do any good while the guy slogs?**

I think communication is great between couples and super important. If you don't talk to your partner how would you know what's going through their mind, what do they enjoy and what do they don't. It makes for a much better experience if you communicate.

“ I THINK COMMUNICATION IS GREAT BETWEEN COUPLES AND SUPER IMPORTANT. IF YOU DON'T TALK TO YOUR PARTNER, HOW WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING THROUGH THEIR MIND. ”

08

**How important are hands in the whole course?**

Hands are super important. They can definitely make the experience more enjoyable for both parties. Think of them as an extra tool to help you get the job done.

# pandora's box

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With a capacity of upto 500 songs, this fitness watch will also measure your heart rate and all... ahem... sporting activities.

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